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## THE FRENCH IN SYRIA.

THE demand of Napoleon that he should be allowed to retain military occupation of Syria for six months longer, and the repeated reasons and pretended necessities for it urged in the *Moniteur*, and in the speeches of the Imperial party in the Chambers, are, we fear, pregnant with future troubles. It looks like another attempt at the extension eastward of his annexation policy.

Some eleven years ago he interposed at Rome, in order to reseal the Pope in his crazy chair. His eagles are still in the Eternal City. The Pope is still his prisoner, while nominally protected. Nor will the tramp of his retiring legions be heard till Victor Emmanuel is proclaimed King of Italy from the Capitol, or Rome annexed to the Empire, or the Pope carried to Paris to found a new Papacy on the Seine, and to add fresh lustre to the throne of Napoleon. Savoy is a more recent illustration of this, the dominant passion of the Emperor. But the last, and in all probability the most fertile source of new complications, is the Emperor's prolonged occupation of Syria. He interfered, with the consent of the Great Powers, and with an instance that did him credit, in order to restore government and stop the shedding of blood. But it was made an express condition that he should withdraw his troops at the end of six months, or on peace being established. The time is come for the return of his legions to Paris; and not a few plain hints have been conveyed to the Tuileries that Europe expects His Majesty to fulfil the stipulations with which he entered Palestine. The only answer is the usual shower of anonymous pamphlets, demonstrating, with impassioned rhetoric, that the safety of the Christian population in Damascus, like the safety of the Pope and Cardinals in Rome, is dependent on the continued presence of the French.

Among other curious phenomena it looks as if we may live to see the two capitals, Rome and Jerusalem, prostrate at the feet of the Emperor of the French. But a most important and strictly English consideration remains. Syria is part of the overland route to India. Whoever holds Syria holds one end of the key of our Eastern possessions. England's greatest and most splendid *appanage* is very much in the power of him who becomes ruler of Palestine. The temptation to occupy that land of historic greatness and unrivalled traditions is, no doubt, very great. Its annexation would add to the lustre of the brightest crown. It is capable, if placed under a firm government, of immense territorial and commercial improvement. It has harbours which might shelter the largest navy; it has a soil long neglected, but likely, under skilful cultivation, to supply corn in indifferent quantity to the granaries of Europe. Its mountain sides, rising in successive tiers of terraces, produce the fruits of every latitude. Let order be restored and a firm and impartial hand resume the reins of government, and Syria would prove to France the most productive and valuable colony, repaying her outlay a hundredfold.

The ravine in which the Dead Sea sleeps was once the scene of fertility, and corn-fields, and gardens. It was "a good land." The last rays of Paradise seem to have lingered longer on its bosom than on any other portion of the earth. Moral, not physical, elements explain its present degradation; the reason why its rain is "powder and dust," and its "sky as brass," and its "soil as iron," lies chiefly in the political and social debasement of the people that possess it. The Druse, the Maronite, and Moslem live by plundering

other. The Bedouin of the desert and the untamed Arab reap, but rarely sow. The Jew, its ancient occupant, is the least tolerated in his own beloved inheritance. Where the reaping-hook has been beaten into the sword, and the pruning-hook into the spear, the wasted rivers, the cloven rocks, and the arid soil, and the drifting sands must remain. But let all this be reversed, and the vigour of a powerful and enlightened polity be felt, and this depressed but undestroyed land will become the "glory of all lands." Napoleon understands all this. His eye has long been on it, and his foot is now upon its bosom, and his eagles wet their beaks in its waters. The "sick man" dies by inches; his interest in Syria ebbs away like a retiring flood. The whole condition of the Turkish Government is corrupt and hopeless, and every effort and sacrifice made by Europe to keep it together has only served to precipitate its decay. Its dissolution is now imminent. Syria will, therefore, soon be without a master, and its tribes without a ruler. Napoleon anticipates all these eventualities, and stands prepared to occupy the throne and wear the slippers of the Sultan. England may protest, and Prussia may feel jealous; but if nothing else is done, we shall waken one fine morning and discover that Syria has been annexed to France "at the urgent and earnest desire of the Christian population." But what renders the situation of the Eastern question more complicated still, is the sudden and unmodified acquiescence of Russia in the proposal of France to extend the period of its tenure of Syria. Prince Gortschakoff has just published a despatch, of which the following is an extract:—

"The explanations exchanged between the commissioners relative to the duration of the French occupation have particularly fixed our attention, because they touch on a very delicate question, which we may expect to see started between the cabinets. We entirely approve of the language used by M. Novikov. In our opinion the military occupation of the Lebanon by the French troops ought not to be limited, except by the complete realization of the object for which it was undertaken, by the avowal of the Great Powers. It is impossible for us to admit that its task is finished until the country has been restored to its normal state, which would render the duration of it useless. The military occupation of Syria is the result of a delegation conferred by Europe on France, and accepted by that power with the object of effecting an urgent work of humanity, justice, and peace. The Conference might, from an idea of moderation, eventually assign a limit; but any provisions on this subject must, in our opinion, be subordinate to the realization of the essential object for which it was undertaken. Now that object is far from having been as yet attained. Syria not only appears to us not to be in a state to render occupation by the French troops useless, and their recall desirable, but we think that the salutary results hitherto produced have been principally owing to the presence of the French force, and that the acts of justice and repression which they have supported, would become an excitement to fresh acts of vengeance if they were prematurely to quit the country. The peace of those countries, the dignity of Europe, and the military honour of Europe, would be equally compromised, if considerations of a comparatively secondary nature were to prematurely put an end to an occupation which, in our opinion, had better have not been undertaken, than now left incomplete."

Our readers may rest assured that Russia and France perfectly understand each other. The domain of the Sultan is ripe for division. Russia is to have Constantinople, and France is to have Jerusalem, and the one will stand by the other in resisting every attempt to interfere with their division of the goods of the expiring Moslem. What conflicts this conspiracy will give birth to it is impossible to predict. But this is certain: England will resist, or she must resign her right of way to her Eastern possessions. A short time ago the *Times* expressed its belief that there was a secret compact between St. Petersburg and Paris. It was denied at the time; it is justified. We state our deliberate conviction, founded on evidence





thoroughly reliable, that the kindling centre of a European conflagration will not be Italy but Syria, and the sooner the eyes of the Cabinet of St. James are open to this contingency the better shall we be prepared to meet it.

#### THE "GOOD SHIP" ADMIRALTY.

A SWAN on a turnpike road or a dismounted dragoon are very generally accepted as emblems of helplessness; but "my Lords" at sea are apparently much more helpless than the bird or the biped. So long as they could contrive to envelop their craft in mystery, sail under the prestige of the great struggle with France, and thus ensure a fair wind by tickling the national vanity, a more jovial crew never swam. Political yachtsmen who ventured into the same dangerous waters were sure to run aground, or founder on a technicality; and if they dared to pursue their voyage and "cross the line" of the great sea sanctuary, were straightway shaved and ducked by the Admiralty Neptune for the time being, with as little remorse as a boatswain would have shown to a drummer in the great equatorial ceremony of by-gone days.

So long as there was no rival with whom to compare the results of their voyage, "the good ship" *Admiralty* rolled down the political trades like some stately Indiaman of old in the full swing of monopoly; but smoky, screwy competition has run those argosies of the east off the ocean, and bids fair to tow the water-logged old craft *Admiralty* a little further down the river, either to be broken up, or reconstructed, if there may be any sound timber found in her. That the crew have stuck to her to the last, in spite of even the remonstrances of the owners, cannot be denied. In vain they have declared she was no longer A1 in Europe. By dint of paint and putty, leak after leak has been stopped, while new hands at the pumps have worked wonders—what with a new bottom, false bow and stern, an extravagant expenditure in all departments, and a constant change of management, she has been kept afloat, but since Confidence left her a few years since, it became evident that the owners were getting tired of such an expensive ship, especially when they came to compare her performances with the fast iron boat built in Paris for another eminent firm, who have reaped sagacity from misfortune.

As public opinion has gained on the pumps, and no amount of soft sawder or frankness could keep it out, the proposition to go into dock at St. Stephen's has been accepted by the worn-out and helpless crew, who would not have stopped in her so long on such low wages, had not the perquisites been great. Their story now is that the craft was the most obsolete one of the sort afloat, and that the system that they carried on aboard was enough to have ruined any private firm; that, as individuals, they were perfectly helpless; and, had they not been a very able-bodied lot, she would have gone down under them long since.

Now, considering that within the last thirty years they have had 103 heads of departments aboard, in batches of sixes, it is not surprising that there should have been a little confusion; but is it not singular that out of these 103 men-at-sea, not one should have brains enough to conceive some scheme which would have rendered them less helpless, or should have had the pluck to propound it? Why did they not ask to be docked, or tell the owners that it would be cheaper and better to have a new vessel?

Does it not appear that the service must have been profitable to themselves if not to the State? Did they keep accounts? Had they any patronage to distribute? What could have induced these neophytes to go to sea in such a vessel, on such mean wages, to endure such hardships?

It is true that the owners did not care much about money so long as the business was carried on respectably, and the expenditure was kept within moderate bounds; but when their annual expenses rose to £12,000,000 a year, they began to think it rather hard, particularly when a rival company over the water did the business cheaper and better.

On inquiry they find that this foreign company is conducted by a responsible manager, who has been all his life in the trade; whereas, theirs has been conducted by an irresponsible and inexperienced one, who could not even take an active part in the business of the firm without having his interior economy very much deranged; and further, that he has never been afloat, save in the unseaworthy old hulk moored under Charing-cross, from which in fine weather he flies a foul anchor flag, emblematic of the negligence of all on board. Nevertheless, his great classical, agricultural, or political acquirements, as the case may be, enable him to decide at a glance in all trifling matters of constructing docks, harbours of refuge, wooden or iron ships, manning the fleet, or drawing up a plan of campaign.

The two committees recently granted in the House, the one to inquire into the administration of affairs at sea, and the other to inquire into promotion and appointment, are likely to produce most beneficial results, but must only be considered preliminary at least to two others—one on the expediency of creating a standing navy, and adapting its interior economy to a system corresponding to the present generation, instead of the fleeting one; the other, to steam and iron, not wood and sail.

#### SARMATIA REDIVIVA.

FOR thirty years "order has reigned in Warsaw." For thirty years all the despots of Europe have been encouraged in evil doing by the spectacle presented by Poland—crushed, bleeding, mangled, all but defunct—a terrible example of the vengeance of a stern and unrelenting Autocrat, inflicted upon a people who dared to clamour for a freedom which he thought proper to deny, and to assert a nationality which it was his pleasure to extinguish. Anything more iniquitous than the original partition of that unhappy land; anything more ruthless than the determination to persist in the evil; anything more bloody than the means adopted by the late Emperor Nicholas, and his butcher-brother Constantine, to overbear resistance and silence complaints, is not recorded in ancient or modern history.

All the genius and patriotism of the country, that took up pen or sword in defence of liberty in 1830, have either died on the battlefield, or in home dungeons, or lingered out a hopeless and miserable existence in foreign exile. The new generation—unborn on the 25th of February, 1831, the glorious day of the battle of Grochow, or in their cradles, a few months later, when the Czar and Constantine imagined they had quenched in blood, once and for ever, the nationality of Poland,—had been subjected to such systematic harshness of ultra-despotism, and repression of all knowledge and education that might tend to inspire them with even the faintest reflex of the self-sacrificing heroism of their gallant and unfortunate fathers, that Europe had come to the conclusion that, whatever might happen elsewhere, there was an end of Poland, and of all its hopes and aspirations. But Europe was wrong. The old fire only smouldered, and was not extinct. The contagion of great ideas was too mighty for the cannons and the bayonets of the Czar. The order that reigned in Warsaw was not the order of the tomb, but of the trance; and the sleeper was not so dead asleep as to be deaf to the wail and the preparation of Hungary, and the trumpet note of victory that rang from enfranchised Italy, with a reverberation that startled the world. A fortnight ago it seemed probable that the Czar would once again march his legions to support his brother of Austria against the patriots of Hungary. To-day it seems more probable that he will require all his legions to hold his own in Poland. So much the better for Europe.

The circumstances of the outbreak in Warsaw are of a kin with the heroic nature of the whole of the Polish tragedy. The battle of Grochow was so fiercely fought by the Poles, and so dearly and narrowly won by the Russians—if it were won at all—that both sides claimed the victory. But to Poland it was not a victory of any durability, for its speedy results were the final triumph of the Czar and the establishment of that particular species of order in Warsaw which has since become a byword among the peoples. Though books and newspapers were forbidden to speak of it, the tale of that day could not be prohibited in the nurseries of the rich and at the firesides of the poor. The mother could speak of it to her young sons as soon as they were able to talk, and the growing boy could speak of it to his playfellows, and it could breathe and permeate in the mind and the imagination of the young man, like a tradition of the mythological ages, and entwine itself around all those sacred names of Polish history that had their culmination in Kosciuszko, Lelewel, Mickiewicz, and Czartoriski. Ever since Garibaldi, with his handful of brave red shirts, frightened the poor King of Naples into the rat-hole of Gaeta, the population of Warsaw has been in a state of excitement of which no whisper was permitted to reach the outer world of Europe. The excitement reached its climax on the anniversary of the day of Grochow, when the leaders of the movement resolved to celebrate a solemn funeral service in honour of the Poles who were slain on the battlefield on that day. But the Russians having resolved to pre-occupy the ground, and to perform a similar ceremony in honour of the soldiers who had died in riveting the chains of Poland, the project was abandoned for one equally impressive and significant. It was resolved to hold a torchlight gathering, to unfurl the ancient banner of Poland—a white eagle on a red field—and to march in procession through the city. Thirty thousand persons responded to the call; the flag was unfurled; and the mighty multitude, kneeling down with one mind, chanted the hymn of liberty. The Russian troops were commanded to restore "order;" as in the days of old, the cavalry, flashing their sabres, spurred their steeds into the crowd, which they succeeded in dispersing, after having slain eight, and wounded, more or less severely, hundreds of persons, some of them women and children.

On the day appointed for the funeral of the slain the whole population of Warsaw appeared in deep mourning; a crowd estimated at a hundred thousand persons followed the victims to the grave; the Poles in the service of the Czar tendered their resignation in a body; and telegraphic despatches were sent to the government by the Russian General demanding large reinforcements of troops to assist in keeping "order." But the Russian commander had sufficient discretion and good taste to confine the troops to their barracks, and to leave the preservation of the public tranquillity to the municipality and the citizens. The consequence was that all went off quietly. The bodies having been consigned to the grave, the citizens assembled and drew up a petition to the Emperor, in which they



stated, in firm but respectful language, that although the late events had been the work of one portion of the people only, they were the unanimous and the deepest expression of the unsatisfied wants of the country, and the result of many years of suffering. They urged that the want of legal facilities for making known their complaints forced them to incur risk and consent to sacrifice to obtain a hearing; asserted their firm belief that the country would never prosper or develop its resources, until its nationality was recognized and its liberty conceded; and concluded by appealing to the Emperor's sense of justice, to restore the constitution abolished after the unhappy events of 1831.

The present Emperor of Russia is not a stern bigot like his father Nicholas, but a mild and generous-minded sovereign, as his noble scheme for the enfranchisement of the serfs throughout his dominions is sufficient to prove. If he be but wise enough to let this baptism of blood be sufficient to inaugurate the renewed life of Poland, and to take warning by the events which have happened in Italy, and those which probably will happen in Hungary ere the snows of next winter shall have melted into the streams, he may escape the curses that he has inherited from the misdeeds of his ancestors, and earn for himself a brighter name than any of his predecessors.

No true man or far-sighted politician on this side of Europe, however much he may deplore the bloodshed, can regret that there is yet life enough in Poland to assert a claim like that put forward with such grandeur and solemnity at Warsaw. "Nationality" has become a potent word with which great magicians can work great wonders; and this Polish question, once raised as it has just been, will work its way as assuredly as that of Italy. If Hope bade the world farewell when Kosciusko was vanquished, it was but for the season of which her poet sang; and her fair face is seen once more in regions where she was almost as unknown as within the infernal gates that Dante has celebrated. Francis Joseph of Austria has not granted his constitution a moment too soon. It must by this time be abundantly clear, even to his dark and obstinate mind, that if he have to fight with the Hungarians he must fight single-handed, and that his Imperial friend of St. Petersburg is no longer in a position to help him.

#### THE EMPEROR AND THE POPE.

THE character of the Pope is the character of the Papacy, so far as politics are concerned; the character of the Emperor is his own. Much has been written on both, and of late still more on the latter. But while it was the fashion for a long time to regard the Emperor as a political sphinx, towering over his fellows, and inaccessible to ordinary mortals, as if the thing were even possible, any more than it is possible for a tree to grow to the height of 300 feet in a country where all the trees of the same kind average 30; yet now, those who strained their eyes in watching the portent, seem all at once to have veered round in their opinion, and to believe that the elephant in the moon is, after all, but a mouse in the telescope. Both views we think exaggerated, and the last more so than the first. That the Emperor is, in any sense, a portentous enigma we deny; but we cannot admit that he is a man living in politics from hand to mouth, and merely drivelling on in beggarly shifts from expedient to expedient. His whole career belies it. A man who, from his boyhood, fixed his eye upon one event—his accession to the throne of Napoleon; who, through exile, poverty, sickness, reverse, ridicule, contempt, and obloquy, lived to realise in late maturity the dream of his childhood, may have exhausted the list of expedients; but the dominant idea and the seal of success refute the epithet of empiric.

"Naturæ non imperatur, nisi parendo."

When he was eleven years old his mother, the Queen Hortense, was more than once heard to say that she had no fault to find with her son, for he was sensible, amiable, and all he should be, but he had one idea in his head, which made her wretched: "he was always saying that he would one day be Emperor of the French." Such was the germ, which ever since he has steadily unfolded. Nor, in spite of the eagle at Boulogne and other absurdities, can he be accused of visionary enthusiasm. His deportment in England was consistently reserved and sober. When he took his seat in the Chamber of Representatives after the Revolution of '48, M. de Molé, remarking to a friend upon the effect created by Louis Napoleon in the Assembly, observed:—"Il a un gros bon sens, qui nous maîtrisera tous." Certainly M. de Molé was no partial observer, and the event has justified his prediction. With such a career staring us in the face, it is not a little astounding to hear the Emperor pertinaciously described as a pettifogging trickster. That he has tried every trick, left no stone unturned, had recourse to every experiment, looked into every combination, yet never for a moment, like feeble warriors encumbered with their armour, sacrificed the end to the means, or lost sight of his goal, while skirting the obstacle, proves, if it proves anything, that his political faculty is both theoretically and practically of the highest class. We neither blame nor approve, we state facts. For such lust of rule we have small sympathy. It has been well

said, that there is a taint of vulgarity in the nature of all great conquerors.

Too many fine threads must be disregarded to allow of delicacy, too many feelings sacrificed to retain a true love for what is purely beautiful, noble, and just. We do not go to our butler for æsthetic doctrines. Whatever may be the fate of the future, great statesmen, great generals, great men of success, now-a-days, must still sacrifice a little gold for much tinsel. And if the modest student has joys of his own, what is it but the consolation of the violet for not being the oak? But this admission made, we contend that the present Emperor, although in a different sense from his uncle, is unquestionably a great man, a man, too, as far-seeing as the shifting lot of politics will permit a man to be. We accept his version of French policy in Italy, explained by his prophet, M. de la Guéronnière. That from the beginning he foresaw exactly what course affairs would take, we do not see the necessity of proving. He saw quite enough throughout to have warned him to stop in time, if his real and deliberate intention was not, at any rate, to get rid of the Pope's temporal power, and to consolidate Italy ultimately. It is impossible to believe that, having spent his life in familiar intercourse and close intimacy with what were then called the Italian conspirators, now the Italian patriots, he was not minutely at home in every eventuality of Italian politics.

It is easy to see that from his earliest youth he must have viewed the Papal power as antagonistic to the dynasty on which his mind was bent. He must early have understood, that if a fortunate event should place him on the throne, the Papal court must, in the very nature of things, be the conduit-pipe for all adverse legitimist influences, from all the legitimist centres converging thither, to be plied over France. That the actual clergy of France favoured him at the outset, is wholly immaterial to the real question. However favourable at first, the traditions of the Romish power left it impossible for any statesman to believe they could continue so the moment they were opposed. Napoleon stooped to conquer. How could he ever rest satisfied with an *imperium in imperio*? How much less when, owing to the characteristic obstinacy of the Bourbons, the temporal power of the Pope could only subsist to be the focus of legitimacy, not in his own reign merely, but that of his descendants.

On the other hand, how was he to grapple with the spiritual duplicity of the Papacy? We conceive that, so far from having had recourse from one shift to another, and finally stranded in the involuntary wreck of the Papal power, that power was doomed, in his mind, from the moment he ascended the throne, and that his policy from the beginning has been commanded by one consistent view. Nor can we find in the whole range of history a more engrossing spectacle than the masterly way in which the long accumulated policy of the Court of Rome, haughty, double-faced, yet for ever appealing *ad misericordiam*, and making use of spiritual arguments as a cat's-paw to enslave princes, has at last been met by the only available counter-weapon—the respectful, obsequious, and ironical treatment of the eldest son of the Church.

All the duplicity, so-called diplomacy, of modern Europe, may, we think, with the utmost fairness, be traced to the Papal Court—to that principle by which the Popes, conceiving themselves divinely authorised to employ any means to obtain their divine ends, made themselves all things to all men, and in their infinite wisdom forgot that the day must come when they would be met by scholars as able and more powerful than their teachers, and when the very policy they had employed in vain to bolster up a power built upon the hollow foundation of mendacity, would be employed to give the last blow to a system too far gone to be demolished by truth. If any man doubt the interpretation we have put upon the Emperor's policy, he need, we think, but read M. Dupanloup's answer to M. de la Guéronnière's pamphlet to find it displayed in the most dazzling light.

#### LONDON, DURHAM, AND OXFORD.

THE present occupants of these episcopal sees are types of the schools of theology that predominate in the Church of England. The first is commonly considered to represent the opinions of the Broad Church, the second those of the Low Church, and the third of the High Church. Each is distinctly marked by doctrinal as well as ecclesiastical shibboleths. Warmly attached to those great Christian and Protestant truths which are held in solution in every denomination of the Church universal, and by no communion more clearly than by that of the Church of England, we are enabled to form an impartial estimate of what is good as well as what is defective in each.

We have no wish to discuss theological questions. We speak from the press not the pulpit, and to the hearts and common sense of the people of England, not to a coterie. We would test, if not the schools, at least their exponents, by a feature old as Christianity itself, "By their fruits ye shall know them." This homely criterion is forcing itself every day into the judgments of the people. The excellence of a Church is determined now-a-days, not by the size of its cathedrals, the height of its spires, or the number of its christenings, or the links of its succession, but by its sacrifices, its superiority to the gains and attractions of the world, and its efficiency and success



in reclaiming the outcasts of society, and transforming the sandwastes of the earth into scenes of beauty and goodness.

Bishops must submit to the acknowledged and universal law—what they say in sermons must be translated into actions, and the higher the ground they take in the pulpit, the more we expect from them in this every day world of ours.

There is an old episcopal characteristic which must be vital because it is inspired—"Not greedy of filthy lucre." It is required of all men. It is exacted specially from a bishop. The absence of it taints the air of a Cathedral, and pollutes the hands of the most eloquent or learned. Churchmen insensible to impressive sermons are keenly alive to this.

We cannot, of course, descend into the recesses of men's hearts, but it is our mission to pronounce on those deeds which are done in the face of day and on the high and exposed levels of life, and to rebuke the wrongdoer, whether he wear a coronet or a mitre.

The Bishop of London, as a leading representative of the Broad Church school, has risen from a successful student at Glasgow to a foremost seat on the episcopal bench. He has passed over to affluence and power from comparative poverty. He has been charged with inheriting the fault of his predecessor in the See—a tendency to compromise in his desire to conciliate, and a wavering and vacillating policy, where decision is imperatively required. But in his bestowment of church patronage he has, for the most part, been impartial. His last exercise of patronage at Bethnal-green, in presenting the curate who had laboured for eighteen years to the living vacated by the death of the rector, reflects on Dr. Tait the very highest honour.

The Bishop of Oxford is notoriously High Church. His career has not been as consistent as his eloquence is undoubted. By his conduct in the Hampden controversy he lost, what he once possessed, the good opinion of the Court, and by his strong sympathy with histrionic curates, and exaggerated notions of the prerogatives of the priesthood, he has weakened an otherwise impressive influence. But in no instance that we recollect has he preferred the claims of blood to merit, or raised to rich livings the relatives of his family, and passed by the hardworking and earnest ministers of his diocese. In convocation he has denounced, in terms not more unsparing than deserved, the writers of the notorious "Essays and Reviews;" and by this course he has redeemed his character from stains that were otherwise indelible. We wish we could add that his brother of London had, in this last respect, earned the same praise.

The Bishop of Durham is a well known member of the Low Church or Evangelical party. As rector of Bloomsbury he was the unwearied preacher of self-denial and renunciation of the pomps and vanities of time. He is said to believe in the nearing close of this present economy, and used to urge ceaselessly and eloquently the necessity of sitting loose to all that endears this world to its votaries. From the comparative poverty he adorned as a parish minister, he was lately raised to the wealth and influence which he has prostituted as a bishop.

A parish worth thirteen hundred a year, with a population of a thousand, surrounded by three parishes containing fifteen thousand, with an aggregate income of six hundred pounds, became vacant. He was petitioned by churchwardens and parishioners to subtract from the rich and thinly-peopled living a few hundred pounds, and to add these to the income of the ill-paid and over-worked incumbents of the neighbouring populous parishes. His letters in reply have stained his lawn sleeves. He has treated a sacred trust as a piece of personal property, and discussed his prerogatives in relation to it as a huckster in the market, rather than the chief minister of souls; and in order to justify the mercenary views he had formed, he forthwith presented to the rich and unimpaired benefice a curate three years in orders, whose highest if not only claim is that he has married his daughter. By this most unworthy deed he has destroyed his influence in his diocese, weakened in the hearts of thousands those pure and spiritual truths of which he was long the earnest and eloquent preacher, and reproduced the spectacle of the money-changer instead of the unworldly minister of religion in the temple of God. He has committed a great offence, and brought scandal on the episcopacy of England. His best reparation is a sacrifice. We do not ask him to resign his See. But he ought to insist on his son-in-law resigning his living.

Society is wiser and the press more vigilant than in former times. If bishops will worship the golden calf, and set their hearts on loaves and fishes, and make an episcopal chair their Sinai, and the enriching and aggrandizement of those who marry their daughters, instead of helping those who preach and labour diligently, the actuating aim and inspiration of their conduct, they should not be surprised if they find themselves universally rebuked by a world that, with all its faults, prefers deeds to words, and self-denial ministering to others and transfiguring the dark and dreary places of the land into celestial roads, even to croziers, and mitres, and palaces, never the substance and often the empty show of true religion.

Never is iniquity seen clothed with so hateful colours as when it walks under the eaves of a church. Office exhausted of character is

a sham. Religion is not a draped and chilling form, with sanctimonious look and broad phylacteries. It is not meat, and drink, and money, and state. It is something infinitely nobler and better, and the bishop who does not think and feel this has mistaken his profession.

#### THE BANKRUPTCY BILL IN REFERENCE TO THE BANKRUPT AND THE PUBLIC.

THE Bankruptcy Bill received, last week, the earnest attention of the House of Commons and of the public press; and it seems likely that it will for some time continue to be examined and discussed with all the interest to which it is fully entitled, both on the ground of its intimate connexion with the prosperity of our trade and still more so because of its important bearing on the moral and social condition of the country. It may therefore be worth while to complete the outline we began in a former article. In that article we considered the Bill from the creditors' point of view; we have now to examine it in reference to the bankrupt and to the public.

The main principle which the Attorney-General has consistently worked out in that part of the measure which we are about to sketch is the following:—As soon as the insolvent debtor has surrendered all his property to his creditors, he is entitled (provided the Court does not deem his conduct deserving of punishment) to be protected from imprisonment and to be completely released from all his past debts.

Simple as this maxim may at first sight appear, it must be admitted that it is one the truth of which has been but very recently established; but on the other hand it is equally true that the history of jurisprudence points it out as the principle towards which, as civilization advances, the law of debtor and creditor steadily converges.

In ancient Rome the twelve tables enabled the creditor actually to make the debtor his slave, and though after the lapse of two centuries that formidable power was exchanged for the right to compel the debtor to work for the creditor until he had discharged his debt, still it was not until the culmination of Roman jurisprudence in the times of the Christian emperors that the debtor who ceded his fortune to his creditors was secured from all corporal restraint. Nor is this picture of Roman law very dissimilar to that which is presented to us by the annals of our own country. The first bankrupt law which was enacted in England treated the insolvent trader entirely in the light of a criminal, and it is only about a century and a half ago that the legislature advanced so far as to release him from debts contracted before his bankruptcy. Moreover, as to the non-trader who became insolvent, our laws were, almost up to the beginning of the present century, marked by the utmost harshness and injustice, there being nothing to prevent the creditor from keeping his debtor in hopeless confinement for an almost indefinite period. At length, in the reign of George III., a statute was passed for the relief of insolvent debtors, which statute was followed by several others of a similar nature, and now the insolvent (unless indeed he be a pauper) is enabled to obtain his personal liberty after a short imprisonment, which in the absence of fraud and dishonesty can rarely exceed a few weeks.

Thus we see, in the history of our bankruptcy and insolvency laws, how the tendency has strongly manifested itself which we spoke of at the outset as natural to the progress of civilization, and that we have been steadily advancing towards the principle of securing to the unfortunate insolvent at least his personal liberty. We have discarded the barbarous notion that the debtor's imprisonment is the creditor's right, and retain it in insolvency simply and solely as a means of enforcing the surrender of the insolvent's property. But since imprisonment is no more necessary for that purpose in insolvency than it is in bankruptcy, there are probably few persons who will not cordially approve of any scheme by which insolvency is assimilated to bankruptcy, so far, at least, as the debtor's imprisonment is concerned. And we ask, is it not time that the only other remaining distinction between the two systems should be abolished? Why not give to the non-trader what you have already given to the trader, the benefit of being released, after he has surrendered all his property, from liability for past debts? Is it true that you can safely legislate on the presumption that the trader's bankruptcy is most frequently the result of uncontrollable misfortunes, and that, on the other hand, the non-trader's insolvency is generally due to dishonesty or extravagance? Cannot a farmer be ruined by a bad harvest, a professional man by ill-health, accident, or the world's caprice? And here we cannot refrain from urging Sir Richard Bethell's powerful dilemma; if the creditor, when he gave credit, relied on the fortune of which the debtor was then possessed, he has clearly no rightful claim whatsoever on the debtor's future property; whilst if it was to the insolvent's expectations that he trusted, then he was doing that which the legislature, on every sound principle of policy, should take the utmost care not to encourage. And, in fact, if we except those nontraders who are working men, such as the farmer, the barrister, the solicitor, or physician (men who, in their misfortunes, are at least entitled to as much leniency as the trader or merchant), do we not but too often recognize in the insolvent, one who has been allured by the persuasive representations, and ruined by the extortionate conduct of his creditors? so that to allow the latter, in such cases, to come down on his future fortune, is nothing else but to encourage designing men in their schemes, and to increase the dangers to which a man of large expectations is but too much exposed.

It seems, therefore, to us, that justice and sound policy demand the abolition of the artificial distinction between bankruptcy and insolvency, and that one and the same rule should be laid down for the trader and non-trader alike. Where his conduct has been irreproachable, he should be *completely* released; but where his insolvency is attributable to extravagance, or his debts have been dishonestly or recklessly contracted, the judge should have power to award to the creditors a claim on his after-acquired property, and even, if the case should warrant it, to punish him by imprisonment. This is the principle which Sir R. Bethell has adopted. It enables him to sweep away the Insolvent Debtors' Court, merging insolvency into bankruptcy; and while on the one hand he places the *honest* insolvent in a position of unfettered freedom, efficient means are, on the other hand, provided for the punishment of the *dishonest* insolvent.

We rejoice to find that so broad and beneficent a principle, while supported



by the Government, has not met with any serious resistance from the many great lawyers who adorn the Opposition benches. True it is that a powerful objection was urged against some of the insolvency clauses in last week's debate. That objection, however, was not directed against any fundamental principle; it had reference only to a simple point of procedure. Nor will the Attorney-General who has undertaken to reconsider those clauses find any difficulty in carrying out the wishes of the House by guarding carefully against the contingency of a non-trader who is absent abroad from being made a bankrupt behind his back. It will, indeed, suffice for this purpose to enact that a non-trader shall not be adjudicated a bankrupt whilst he is abroad, unless he has had notice of the bankruptcy petition having been presented against him, and has had ample time for opposing it.

It would not be just to quit the subject of insolvency without alluding to the noble effort the Attorney-General has made to help those "pauper debtors" who have not themselves the means to set the law of bankruptcy in motion. He has attempted in a few masterly clauses to clear our gaols of insolvent paupers, and has provided a machinery which will make it impossible for any man, however poor, to remain in prison simply on the ground of debt for a longer period than from fourteen to twenty days.

To come now to what we described as one of the three objects of a good bankruptcy code, the punishment of fraudulent and dishonest practices. That the law on this subject is egregiously defective is but too well known; and it is to remedy this deficiency that Sir R. Bethell has introduced ten clauses, which, though stringent, are certainly not more so than is necessary. The bankrupt who fraudulently removes or conceals his property, or who gives to a creditor a fraudulent preference, is, with certain limitations, to be liable to imprisonment. Moreover, the criminal law is likewise directed against the trader who attempts to account for any of his property by "fictitious losses or expenses," or "who, within three months before the bankruptcy petition, obtains goods on credit under the false pretence of dealing in the ordinary course of trade;" such trader is to be guilty of misdemeanour, and to be liable to be imprisoned for a period not exceeding three years. It is clear, however, that these provisions would not completely reach those remarkable cases of bankruptcy that have of late startled the commercial world, and have gone far to diminish the confidence which Englishmen, and still more the continent, were wont to place in the honour and honesty of the British merchant. With a view to these cases, therefore, the Attorney-General has given to the judge ample power to punish the bankrupt who has carried on trade "by means of fictitious capital," or "who could not have had reasonable expectation of being able to pay his debts at the time he contracted them." Of these clauses we venture to assert that every lawyer and every merchant of ordinary experience will cordially approve; and we are certain he will not less rejoice to find that the bankrupt's estate is no longer to bear the costs of any prosecution which the court may direct against the offending bankrupt. Such prosecution is carried on not in any way for the benefit of the creditors, but solely for the prevention of fraud and consequently for the benefit of the commercial public and the country at large, and it is therefore by the country and not by the creditors that the costs attaching to such prosecution should be borne.

Such, then, are the main outlines of the Bankruptcy Bill. We are convinced that it introduces into the law of debtor and creditor most valuable and extensive improvements, and we trust, therefore, that it will receive both the cordial approval of the country and the sanction of the Legislature.

#### THE ETON CONTROVERSY.

THE education of the rising generation is a matter of such vast importance to the nation at large that it is not strange that it should lately have excited considerable discussion; nor, considering the admitted preeminence of Eton, is it wonderful that that discussion should have especially turned upon the merits and deficiencies, real or alleged, of that time-honoured seat of learning. It is more strange, and it is painful to observe that, though the controversy has been carried on principally, if not wholly, by Etonians, it has been so conducted as to have awakened angry and bitter feelings on both sides.

The writer in the *Cornhill Magazine* who, under the signature of "Paterfamilias," began the attack on Eton, does not scruple to level charges of unconscientiousness, dishonesty, and incompetency against the Eton masters, a body of clergymen and scholars: making his attack the more personal by singling out, in a manner which is not usually practised or tolerated in such discussions, the Head Master of Eton as one remarkably undistinguished for attainments of any kind; while Mr. Johnson, an assistant master at Eton, who has taken on himself the advocacy of the school, retaliates with a string of epithets so strong as to induce "Paterfamilias" to remonstrate against their vehemence. That writer, however, should remember that those who live in glass houses should not throw stones; that he who began the bad language is not entitled to complain if it be retorted on himself; that imputations of "sordid motives" and "dishonesty" are even more offensive than charges of "rancour" and "rascality;" and that if Mr. Johnson does once accuse him also of want of candour and unfairness, when he complains of his "disingenuous perversion of Sir John Coleridge's statements," he has some grounds for that accusation, since "Paterfamilias" quotes Sir John as "complaining that a small and comparatively obscure college at Cambridge enjoys the valuable monopoly of supplying Eton with masters;" the fact being that the epithets, "small and comparatively obscure," are an interpolation of "Paterfamilias" himself; and that so far is Sir John from calling King's College comparatively obscure that all his examples of former Eton eminence are drawn from its members, whom he expressly mentions as still "competing for all the honours of their University and carrying off a large proportion of them."

We may here leave the personal part of the subject, with one additional remark, since the question of the competency of the head master of such a school is one of public interest. The charge of want of scholarship made against that gentleman was instantly refuted by Mr. Shillito, who enjoys, perhaps, the highest reputation for such learning of all the resident tutors at Cambridge, and who, speaking from intimate personal knowledge, proclaimed his opinion that Dr. Goodford was a scholar of very high capacity and very extensive attainments. And though "Paterfamilias" has repeated the charge,

with the additional statement, borrowed from the *Critic*, that Dr. Goodford, while an undergraduate, obtained neither the University Scholarship nor any of the prizes given for composition, that fact will not be held by those who are acquainted with our university system in the least to invalidate Mr. Shillito's testimonial, since those honours are so apt to be monopolised by the man who is actually the best scholar of his year, that the second best has often no chance, so that, not only was Mr. Shillito, whose great learning was admitted by the writer in the *Critic*, equally undistinguished, but even Dr. Donaldson, a contemporary of Dr. Goodford, who on the melancholy occasion of his recent death was spoken of in the *Times* and other papers, as perhaps the most profound classical scholar in the whole kingdom, equally failed to obtain Browne medal, Porson prize, or University scholarship, and perhaps, therefore, ranked, in the opinion of those who judge by that standard, as unfit to be head-master of a school like Eton.

From such wretched personalities Sir John Coleridge's pamphlet is of course wholly free, as is a very well written defence of Eton "by an Etonian." It will, therefore, be a more pleasing task to gather from those Essays our idea of the condition of this great school; and if the comments of the venerable old judge lose some of their point from being too manifestly an instance of that "laudatio temporis acti se puero," which Horace mentions as one of the mental diseases most commonly incident to age (from bodily ailments we trust Sir John may still enjoy a long freedom); yet his reputation is so high, and has been so well earned, that there is no person or body who can afford to disregard his statements or his opinions, or who can feel otherwise than uneasy under his censures. It is curious, however, we may observe in passing, that on this question the old adage of "Omne ignotum pro magnifico" is exactly reversed; that both sides blame what they know least about. Sir John extols the Eton of Goodall and of Keate, under whose sway he acquired his own varied learning, and is manifestly and justly satisfied with the Eton of Hawtrey, by whose accomplished instruction his sons and his nephew were sent forth so admirably trained, whether for scholastic discussion, or for the more active duties of life; and his blame is directed solely against the Eton of Goodford, whose reign has begun since he had the same opportunities of personal knowledge of the state of the school; while Mr. Johnson, the undaunted champion of the present state of things, sneers at the Eton of Keate, that most tasteful and profound scholar, whose lessons still live in the memory of many whom he sought, not unsuccessfully, to imbue with his own fondness for, and appreciation of, the great writers of Greece and Rome, but who yielded up his sceptre while Mr. Johnson was still in petticoats.

The points on which Sir John Coleridge considers Eton deficient are not many; but very important, if his censure be correct; the first, indeed—the want of a sufficient number of masters—being one that would affect the efficiency of every part of the school. That the number was formerly insufficient we are inclined to think. Thirty years ago the number of boys exceeded 600, and the assistant masters were ten (though at that time Sir John seems satisfied with the practical working of the school). Now, the boys are rather more than 800, and Sir John himself states the number of assistant masters at twenty, besides the head and lower masters, thus giving an average of something under forty boys to each master. It seems to us that the question of the sufficiency of this number should be decided, not by the number of private pupils which it would give to each master, but by the number of his form in school, regard being had to the fact that the lessons done with him in school have already been rehearsed by every boy with his tutor. Judging in this manner, we ourselves think a form of forty boys not too large. No principle stirs boys to exertion like that of competition, and a rather numerous form obviously affords a wider competition than a small one. We agree with Mr. Johnson, that the difference existing between the energy and readiness of different men makes it impossible to lay down one unvarying rule as to the number of boys which one tutor can manage; but that a master of ready scholarship can easily revise the composition of forty or even fifty pupils, and give them as much private instruction as Sir John Coleridge himself would desire we entertain no doubt whatever; while the fitness of the individual masters for their duties is abundantly proved by the high university honours that have been attained by the majority of the body.

Sir John's next complaint is that the monopoly of King's College in supplying assistant masters is not sufficiently broken down. We should have thought it was, since, not only was it departed from as long as thirty-five years ago, but, by a letter addressed by the head master to the *Saturday Review*, it appears that, out of the seven masters last appointed, three come from other quarters, one being a Fellow of St. John's and two more Fellows of colleges at Oxford. This complaint, however, is in some degree connected with a suggestion that the selection of new masters should not be confined "even to Etonians in general." Nor is this recommendation absolutely rejected by Mr. Johnson, who (whatever asperity of language he may permit himself) is far from being a blind or through-thick-and-thin champion. That the masters should be all selected from one college, however distinguished, we certainly think objectionable. The ideas and judgment of members of the same college are naturally apt to run too much in one groove, and to acquire a monotony of tone which cannot fail to be a great bar to improvement. But such a monotony must be at once dispelled by an infusion of able Etonians from other colleges, and from the sister university, while none but Eton men can ever thoroughly enter into the habits and feelings of Eton boys, and such sympathy is no small part of the qualifications of a successful teacher.

We should ourselves rather agree with "An Etonian," that "it would be an evil day which brought Harrow and Rugby men into Eton;" while, at the same time, an appointment of such masters would be so practical and undeniable a confession that there were no Etonians fit to be appointed, that it is impossible for us to anticipate that such a measure will ever be adopted.

It is lamented also by Sir John Coleridge, and again admitted to some extent by Mr. Johnson, that of late the Oppidans, as tried by the Newcastle scholarship and other tests of proficiency, have proved inferior to the Collegers; and it is almost implied that there must have been some difference in their training. Such difference, however, we are assured by those who have the best opportunities of knowing the truth, does not exist; nor can we perceive how it possibly could be made; in some degree it is probably accidental, like other runs of luck for which no one can account. In a still greater degree it arises from the fact that the Collegers remain to a later age, not being superannuated, as it is termed, till the August after they are nine-



teen, so that they often remain at school till they are nearly twenty; while Oppidans usually quit it at about eighteen; and a year or a year and a half of age, though of no consequence in men, makes an enormous difference in boys. It must further be remembered that, under the present system, the Collegers are all picked boys. It is by superior merit that they first obtain admission on the foundation, and their original capacity, thus tested, is kept up to the mark by a series of vigorous competitive examinations, which cannot be equally applied to the Oppidans. We think ourselves that these two facts go a great way to account for the difference remarked on; but Mr. Johnson tells us that the masters at Eton (the best judges of such a point) do not consider it fully explained; that they have turned their attention earnestly to it, and that there are already "evident symptoms" of its disappearance. Any general falling off of the school in general in classical scholarship, though Sir John seems to suspect it, appears to us conclusively disproved by the almost unparalleled list of honours gained by Etonians at the two universities in the first half of the past year, as stated in a letter printed by Dr. Goodford for private circulation, which proves that half the first class at Oxford, above a third of it at Cambridge, the two principal university scholarships, and the four highest prizes for composition both at Oxford and Cambridge, and the Chancellor's medal at the latter university, all fell to the share of Eton in the short space of six months.

There are, however, two further complaints made, both alleging deficiencies of great importance, and appearing to us to be better grounded, though the first of these also seems to us capable of some explanation, and not only remediable, but in actual process of being remedied. We allude to the inferiority of mathematical knowledge, which the boys are said to acquire. We think it probable that the mathematical knowledge of the boys is at present inferior to their classical attainments; and we should attribute this inferiority to the fact that, till a comparatively recent date, that science was wholly neglected at Eton, and a feeling of contempt for it was suffered to grow up among the boys, which cannot be at once or even speedily eradicated. That neglect, however, which was most unwise, has wholly ceased; the judicious liberality of an old Etonian has founded a mathematical scholarship, and a strong staff of mathematical masters has been appointed, on a system which, though it fails to satisfy "Paterfamilias," appears to Sir John Coleridge to be framed "on a principle with which it is impossible not to agree;" in fact, he pronounces it unpretending, honest, and adequate, and, being such, we may reasonably hope that the inferiority now complained of will gradually pass away. It is certainly much to be desired that it should cease; for whatever ancient Eton prejudice may say to the contrary, mathematics ought clearly to hold a high place in the education of every gentleman, not quite so high as classical learning, since, though they strengthen the mind equally, they manifestly contribute less towards its requisite polish and refinement, and qualify it less for dealing with questions of policy and the government of mankind, but certainly high enough to make it the imperative duty of the Eton authorities to take care that no fair ground be given for such complaints; not to mention that they are bound, from a regard to the reputation of their school, if from no higher motive, to take care that everything which they profess to teach shall be taught as well and as thoroughly as possible.

On one charge, though it is not mentioned by Sir John Coleridge, we must wholly agree with "Paterfamilias;" that the French instruction at Eton is inadequate it is impossible to doubt. There are circumstances in the personal history of the present French master (such as his being the son of the late master, and having been educated for some years in France with an especial view to qualifying him for such an appointment), that render him less unfit than any other Englishman. But still, as an instructor, he must of necessity be very inferior to a native of France; and his staff of one assistant must be sadly insufficient for his work.

There is certainly room for improvement in everything human, but altogether we think that those interested in Eton, in spite of the defects which we have mentioned (which, indeed, are easily remediable, and of which the first, if we are correct in the cause to which we have ascribed it, is already gradually remedying itself), may feel satisfied that the general condition of that great school is sound and healthy. Its general system and principles we conceive to be the same as ever; and of them Sir John pronounces "the tendency to be to make a boy generous and firm-minded, to exercise his common sense early, to make him habitually feel a moral responsibility to act not under the impulse of fear, but of generous shame, and generous emulation; to be willing and determined to keep trust because he is trusted; in a word, to make him a manly boy and a gentleman. In regard to morals he believes it to be at least as safe as the strictest system."

Most cordially do we also agree with Sir John in looking on even the sports of the school as almost a part of education; at all events, "as some measure of the general well-doing of the school." We fully believe with him that "it is a bad time for the studies when the sports languish; and that when you promote activity and energy of character generally, you sharpen instruments which you may apply to higher purposes than those of mere amusement." Sir John, indeed, carries his love of sport of all kinds so far, that, in recommending to the Provosts of Eton an imitation of their illustrious predecessor, Sir Henry Wotton, he is careful to record his fondness for angling, which he tells us was so great that Sir Henry was wont to say "he would rather live five May months than forty Decembers." We fear that the counsel implied to go and do likewise may have been more likely to have been followed by the last provost, who was Vicar of Bakewell, than by the present most accomplished head of the college, who can find but few trout at Maple-Durham. Still it may be a comfort to any one who may hope to rise from the post of Head master to that of Provost to think that, while relinquishing one rod, he may look forward to grasping another, the use of which is so much more agreeable—

"Primo avulso non deficit alter  
Aureus, et simili frondescit virga metallo"—

while we, who have strong faith in the gradual improvement of the world, may express a hope that Dr. Goodford, even while the occupant of his present office, may find his pupils so improve in docility, that he may gradually find less occasion to use the more formidable implement, and more time to disport himself with the other.

## PARIS CORRESPONDENCE.

PARIS, 6th March.

I THINK there is really beginning to be a strong sentiment here of the enormity of the comedy that is being enacted on every side. The public is getting as bewildered as is the *grand premier Rôle* himself, and confusion is now everywhere allied to disgust. On the one hand, the Mirès' affair is so far hushed up that no real harm can come of all the scandal; that is, I mean that no public conviction of guilt can attach to any of the great culprits near the throne; and, on the other hand, these great culprits themselves, knowing of their material safety, are actually venturing on indignant appeals to virtue! This is, in reality, the comical part of the business. In order to find a fitting parallel, just try for one moment to conceive an impossible case, and fancy Pullinger and Major Yelverton, and a handful more of their species, having escaped public trial, though not the public admission of their sin, and being all brought into one room to recite the Ten Commandments, with special emphasis laid on the particular forbiddal most affecting themselves! This is the only comparison I can find for what goes on just now in the assemblies of this State. Almost all the highest functionaries of this country are lamentably mixed up in this tremendous scandal, and the public knows it; yet here are these men brought together in the halls of the Senate and Legislative Corps; and knowing each other's guilt, and near escape from ostensible disgrace, they look in each other's faces, and vie with each other in austere condemning all corruption and dishonesty.

All this has gone farther towards creating "a public" in France than anything that has taken place for the last ten years. Such things force men to think, and therefore to think for themselves. The feeling is a general and a sound one just at this moment, and Frenchmen are awakening to a consciousness of the fact that there is some pride for the individual when his country is reputed pure, and some shame fastening upon him, when the shame of his fatherland is proclaimed. This is a feeling new to France in the present day. Cheatery and the sovereignty of sham were so thoroughly the orders of the day here that mere honesty was not taken into account, and, whilst easily moved by any approach to what he supposed was the military "glory" of the "Grande Nation" in former times, the modern Gaul has lived utterly careless of what may be called her *civil* reputation. The matter of a nation being thought honest or dishonest never seemed to touch these people, but all these late scandals and the solemn public farces they cause to be played in high places, and the echo they have out of doors, all this really seems to bring home to the contemporary Frenchman that it is of some consequence to be looked upon as the son of a land whose very life-breath is fed by impure substances.

If this feeling increase it will be a great gain for France, and she may, later, afford to rejoice over such hideous histories as this of the Mirès failure.

Part of the comedy, too, in one sense, is the great speech of Prince Napoleon, for he, who is one of the most compromised participators in the whole business, he, who has always notoriously been steeped to the ears in the illicit obtention of good things, he, too, clamours for "justice" and "severity," now that he is quite certain the action of neither can by any possibility reach himself. However, one thing must be said, namely, that let what will be the feelings provoked by this four hours' long oration of the Imperial "Plon-Plon," no one attempts to gainsay the political worth of what he did say, or the remarkable excellence of his manner of saying it. To the Prince's intimates it all teaches nothing, for they have long known him as a first-rate talker on nearly all subjects, but, in one respect, it is a revelation to every one. I allude to the doctrine of the English alliance. This was not naturally Prince Napoleon's doctrine; never was his or his father's before him. They both were such thorough representatives of pure Buonapartism that the name of England was odious to them, and they sickened at the notion of her glory and preponderance. What has converted "Plon-Plon?" Whether he is converted? If converted, whether it is his own move or one ordained him by the Emperor, with whom he was very latterly on the coolest possible terms? All these are questions universally asked here just now, and, as yet, not satisfactorily answered.

Most people, however, believe that the true motive for the sudden advocacy of the British alliance lies in the Prince's indifference to all religious creeds. King Jerome's son is not a whit nearer being a Protestant than a Catholic; I wish this to be accepted literally, for it implies a fact that, in England, is perhaps not sufficiently noted.

Religion in France, or one ought rather to say Christianity, is not of many shades. You could have no controversies here, such as you have in England about the "Essays and Reviews." No! here it is far plainer than that: it is faith or infidelity—real firm belief in all Christian truths, or belief in none. The believers are often most narrow in the forms affected by their belief, and the unbelievers are most offensive and dictatorial in their manner of asserting their disbelief. But between the two there is no room for an honest Christian—for a man who is a thorough Christian, but a Christian only.

This is a point not to ignore or neglect when reflecting upon the present or future of France; and I rather think in England you neglect and ignore it altogether. Plon-Plon's disregard of all Christian expressions of faith is such, that, for the moment, he of course sees no country with greater favour than the one which will best help to shake the Papal dominion. He believes that the temporal sovereignty of the Pope once laid low the spiritual power must follow, and that to produce this desired result the English alliance is the first thing required. Those who know him best are persuaded that here is the secret of his sudden conversion to "perfidious Albion," and a close partnership with her, to be later modified or abandoned according to circumstances.

In one of my last letters I had to chronicle a most successful lyrical effort on the part of Auber the composer, and his time-sanctioned acolyte, Scribe. Of these two veterans, the one least charged with years, has suddenly laid down his load. Auber lives on, but the companion with whom all his best works were written, has left his side. Scribe is probably the last, as he was the foremost,



of a race. He was the arch-type of the French literary trader, who applies himself resolutely to the work of converting words into money. Of thought, in every shape, he was utterly innocent; and of words, he only knew so much as made him wonder they were not superseded by figures. Of their derivation, of their value, of their power, he had no idea; and no one man ever did so much to insult, if not injure, the French tongue. The success of Scribe was the monument of the entire frivolity of the period at which he had most lived; it endured, but could not have arisen in the present time, and the young generation, more curious of the rectitude of speech, if not higher-minded than their grandfathers, turned with disdain from the extraordinary "slip-slop," which poor Scribe naïvely conceived to be French. He was shocked at his want of influence over the "society" of our day, and he pitied the public. His departure from life leaves vacant a *fauteuil* at the Académie he ought never to have filled, and the filling whereof will be the great event of the next year to the opposition parties in France.

### SKETCHES FROM THE HOUSE.

BY THE SILENT MEMBER.

THERE is a screw loose. Our Noble Viscount has come to grief. The Government have been beaten a second time within a month. Mr. Brand has taken the matter seriously to heart. He emerged from an interview with our Noble Viscount on Wednesday with the longest of faces, and interchanged mutual condolence with the Cabinet Ministers on the Treasury Bench. The Government Whip, it is observed, since Tuesday night, has been plunged in abstruse calculations, and shows some ugly figures to his colleagues, as the result of his arithmetic. A good deal of gossip was current on Wednesday, with a wide divergence, however, as to what was going on. Half the quidnuncs averred that Brand had made up his mind to another impending defeat on a more important question than the grievances of the navy; while the other half asserted that our Noble Viscount had determined to throw up at the next Opposition majority. He knows we don't like another election, and he is going to try whether the crack of this knotted whip will not render his unruly team more manageable.

Certainly Tuesday was not a pleasant evening for our Noble Viscount. Arthur Mills, the member for Taunton, one of Dr. Arnold's Rugbeians, and the author of a work on "Colonial Constitutions," moved for a Select Committee on Colonial Military Expenditure. It involved, he said, an expenditure of £4,000,000, which was almost entirely borne by the mother country, and he wanted a committee to inquire, first, whether this amount could not be reduced; and secondly, whether the Colonies could not in fairness be asked to defray a larger proportion of the expenditure incurred in their defence.

I heard it said that there was something exceedingly humiliating in the position of our Noble Viscount. Imprimis, he got up and stoutly opposed the motion on the ground that it proposed to transfer to a Committee of the House of Commons, duties and functions that properly belonged to the Executive Government. Now there are some who pretend that there was a time when a Minister of the Crown, who got up to offer this serious objection to a motion, would have offered a solemn and earnest resistance to any such encroachment by the House of Commons. But our Noble Viscount, skilled in watching the mutations of the Parliamentary barometer, and perceiving some ominous indications of a storm, finished by declaring that "as it was the general wish of the House," he had no such strong objection as to put the House to the trouble of dividing. The Opposition laughed. It was a confession of weakness, and an evasion of defeat. "The thing was bad, very bad. Still if the House had quite made up its mind to assume duties and functions that did not belong to it," why our Noble Viscount "supposed it must have its way." So the motion for a committee was agreed to without a division.

Misfortunes never come singly. The seventy economists who signed the letter to our Noble Viscount in favour of economy and reduction might be supposed to have swollen the cheers that greeted Mr. Mills and his supporters. Another motion for a select committee came on about two hours later. This, however, unlike the first, was a motion for justifying an increase of pay and allowances to certain classes of officers of the navy. Here the Government at least were safe. The seventy would all be on their side now. Bright and Scholefield, Turner and Bazley, Hadfield and Roebuck, all the advanced Liberals and the moderate Whigs, would give the Government an easy victory over the Conservative country gentlemen, who, as we know, quarter their relatives on the public service, and have an interest in keeping up the expenditure. But I regret to say that not one of the flaming patriots and red-hot economists I have mentioned was forthcoming on the division. They had gone home to frame indignant speeches on the extravagance of the estimates and the sinful waste of public money, and left the Government to fight the battle of economy as they best could. White, Coningham, Wyld, Leatham, and Alderman Salomons, indeed, pretended to think that Sir J. Elphinstone, who pleaded the cause of these deserving veterans (*vice* "Old Charley," deceased), had made out a case for inquiry, and actually went into the lobby against the Government. This unexpected turn of affairs was, however, as yet hid in the womb of the future when our Noble Viscount rose with confidence to oppose the motion for a committee. What a clincher it was when he told us that if we granted this committee, we should find that all the services—all the officers in the army and navy, and all the civil servants of the Crown—were underpaid, and had a claim to an increase of pay, pension, and allowances. Blank were the looks of Brand and Dunbar, for Knatchbull-Hugessen was unaccountably absent. Elphinstone had a majority of five, and the victors hailed the second Government minority of the session with triumphant cheers.

Next day, as I have said, consternation and dismay prevailed in Downing-street. What was to be done with men who blew hot at 6 p.m. and cold at midnight, who wanted economy, but who claimed the privilege of distinguishing; who loved not frugality less, but justice and fair-play more; who wished to save where there was extravagance and spend where there was niggardliness? Our Noble Viscount had refused to bring in a Reform Bill, in deference to our wish to stave off a general election. But if we went on in this way, out-voting the Government, our Noble Viscount, although unwilling to send us to the hustings, must really —.

Between these two ministerial checks and crosses intervened the debate on the hop duty, which was not without its points of interest. Firstly, the tax is doomed. The fiat is gone out against it, and it only awaits the first surplus of a quarter of a million. Yet there is a judgment debt against the Exchequer that has, according to Mr. Bright, a prior claim. No tax can be remitted by the House of Commons until the Lords have consented to the abolition of the paper duty. Bright put this beautifully. Who would guarantee that if the House of Commons passed a bill repealing the hop duty, the House of Lords would consent to its repeal? "I undertake to say on behalf of the House of Commons that, however humbled we may have been by what took place last session, we are not yet come to that point of supplication when we shall consent to send to the other House a bill for the repeal of any other tax until the House has sent up a bill for the abolition of the excise duty on paper." This spirited assertion of the independence of the House won for Bright a hearty cheer. His peroration was in his best manner, and will find an echo among vast numbers of the hon. member's countrymen who do not usually accept him as a political Mentor:—"I should say for myself that I was base as a member of the House of Commons, and that the House was unworthy of its history, and would be unworthy of the slightest confidence on the part of the people of England, if it did not on the first opportunity assert its ancient right, and teach those who for a moment have forgotten it, that here and here alone rests the power to tax the people of England, and to determine what shall be raised from the people to satisfy the exigencies of the Crown for the service of the year."

This sentence, in the language of "Old Drury," brought the House down. It was important, too, as affording, when taken in conjunction with what fell from Gladstone, a glimpse of the coming Budget. It was rumoured last year, and generally believed, that our Chancellor of the Exchequer remained in office solely on the understanding that he was to propose this year the repeal of the paper duty. There is no surplus, and the influence of the old Whigs in the Cabinet will be thrown into the scale against any attempt to force the abolition of the duty upon the Upper House. Whatever may be the decision of the Government on this question, Mr. Bright will allow no tax to be repealed before the paper duty. Be it this year or be it next, "on the first opportunity" that duty shall come off, or the stalwart orator will "know the reason why."

You, doubtless, think, that by this time we have settled to our work, and that, warned by the experience of last session, we are doing everything in a regular and methodical manner. Oh, yes! we are going on swimmingly. Having less to do than usual, we are casting about "how not to do it." Public business is already getting into a glorious muddle. We rob one another, and rob the Government, for all the world like the monkeys at Exeter 'Change in the Corn Law Catechism, where each monkey seizes the food in his neighbour's paw, and spills half of it in conveying it to his mouth. An independent member gives notice of motion on a Friday, when another independent member cuts in, and anticipates him by "calling attention" to a different topic on the motion that the House at its rising adjourn to Monday, whereby he bowls out the indignant representative who is lawfully in possession of the paper. We bully the Government for not bringing in the Civil Service Estimates earlier. They promise amendment, and bring forward the Navy Estimates at the earliest possible moment.

Then is our time. We set upon them as thieves surround an honest man at a fair—one man takes his hat, another his coat, and a third his waistcoat. The confederates are lawless and unscrupulous, and despoil the unfortunate victim without mercy. He is denied even the privilege of complaint, for it is the Saturnalia of petty larceny, and is not Mercury God of thieves as well as of eloquence? Before the House can go into Committee of Supply to vote the Navy Estimates, a motion must be made that "the Speaker do now leave the chair." Now is the time for the "minions of the moon," the thimble-riggers and garotters of St. Stephen's. They dance a joyous dance round the unfortunate Minister. He is in the toils, and they hustle and stifle him in concert. They go to Syria for a night-long debate, and next day, when Syria is exhausted, they take him a dance to Italy. The topics for which Tuesdays and Fridays are especially and expressly set apart are lugged in, not, of course, without a fraudulent evasion of the rules of the House. On both the nights belonging to the Government an hon. gentleman, whose complacency was conveyed in a fine Scotch accent, as soon as the House was moved to go into Committee of Supply, made us a long speech on agricultural statistics, gave us a meteorological history of the last twelve months, described the high winds and the frequent rains, examined the returns of potatoes and grain, gave a glance at the growth of wool, and reminded us how often he had urged the desirableness of procuring official returns of the average of grain and other agricultural produce! If any practical good could follow from dilating on the yield of the late harvest, why did not Mr. Caird "call attention" to it on the following day, or move for leave to bring in a bill on agricultural statistics on the subsequent Tuesday? But no! there is a zest in taking a slice out of a Government night, and Mr. Caird accordingly did his "little possible" to secure that this shall be, like the last, a do-nothing session.

The worst of it is that when these larcenous members talk all night on the motion that the Speaker leave the chair, and when midnight finds the mace still on the table, the work has to be done all over again. On the next Government night, when the Speaker, at half-past four, puts the question, "that I do now leave the chair," some other independent member, who has read a blue-book, or been on a Committee, or wants to see his name in next day's paper, starts up and appropriates the night. What Caird and Seymour Fitzgerald did on Friday, Mr. Pope Hennessy repeated on Monday. On the motion for going into Committee of Supply he rose to "call attention" to the active interference (why should even an Irish M.P. place the accent on the second syllable of this word?) of Lord J. Russell in promoting Piedmontese policy. Now if you think it your duty to impugn the policy of the Government in Italy, there are Tuesdays specially allotted to formal motions, and Fridays, by a lax practice, mainly occupied by motions "calling attention." If Mr. Hennessy seriously thought that Lord John Russell's Italian policy was neither consistent with British interests nor with the honour of England—that his "defence of deliberate falsehoods," and his "treacherous interference with the young King of Naples," had "done more to disgrace this country than anything ever before done by the Foreign Office," one would suppose that the honourable member would have framed



a resolution boldly impugning the Italian policy of the Government, and asking for a vote of the House upon it. But to attack that policy for a couple of hours, to sit down without leaving a motion in the Speaker's hand, to originate, in short, a debate upon the blue-book on Italy, by rising to "call attention" is surely a loose, aimless, undignified way of dealing with a great question of foreign politics. There is no test of the opinion of the House—no vote, no victory. Foreigners will in vain scan the debates in the attempt to appreciate the result of the discussion. When such a debate is adjourned, and member after member rises for a couple of nights to follow another who has "called attention" to a subject, the discussion seems more worthy of a Young Men's Debating Society than the British House of Commons.

Mr. Hennessy is a young but pompous little Irishman, with a large share of the native modesty of the Hibernian who has his way to make in the world. He trod on the toes of his audience, snapped his fingers in the face of common sense, outraged the reason and judgment of every man in the House who does not represent the Irish priests. And yet the House listened to him with singular patience and good breeding. He blackened the administration of Count Cavour, magnified the debt of Piedmont, undervalued its commerce, and drew a contrast between the condition of the Piedmontese and the prosperity of the Papal States. The House, it is true, laughed ironically at his extravagant laudation of that wooden-headed young king, once of Naples and late of Gaeta, whom he described as fighting for the independence of his subjects!

Now why did we give Mr. Hennessy this flattering attention? Not from any sympathy with Papal misgovernment, and the senseless and hideous tyranny of Naples. I looked round the House while this young organ of the Irish priesthood was speaking. The scene was worthy of an artist. Every English, every Scotch, and some Irish faces, wore an expression of stern or contemptuous disapprobation. If lips curled with indignation, and frowning brows, indicate admiration, Francis II. of Naples may be considered the model potentate of the British House of Commons. Still we listened. Why? Because if there be any floating disaffection, any sneaking treason, any absurd delusion, or dangerous theory, held in holes and corners or circulating in dark and distant portions of the United Kingdom, we are uneasy until it finds a representative in Parliament. Then the danger ceases. The culprit is in the dock, and the sheriff is at hand with the cord. The best intellect of the realm is there, panting to strangle, as soon as found, the hidden mischief, and to question its mouthpiece, as Socrates was wont to perplex the Sophists. While Hennessy was yet speaking, half a dozen M.P.'s—Layard, Edwin James, Grant Duff, &c., who had travelled in Italy during the recess, and seen from what kind of despotism a brave and generous people had been delivered by Garibaldi, sat with flashing eyes and eager lips, ready to spring up and vindicate the right of the Italians to settle their own affairs, and even to resist the divine right of the Pope to govern wrong in temporals. They could not all be heard on Monday night, and the debate was adjourned.

Meanwhile, and until the House goes into Committee of Supply, the whole of the week is seized upon by private members. Legislative business is in abeyance. Chatter and Patter are always lords of the ascendant before Easter; but they are in lowering and dread conjunction when the House is asked to go into Committee of Supply. If the public enjoy their speeches, and see nothing wrong in their appropriating to themselves all the Government nights, and that time which is really the time of the public, then let John Bull admit, when August comes, and nothing is done, that one pen at least gave him timely warning.

#### CONTEMPORARY SCIENCE.

Few inquiries are of more importance than those which deal with the cause and prevention of malaria, and on this account we are glad to see that Dr. R. Angus Smith, of Manchester, is again turning his attention to this subject. Malaria is caused by the decomposition of organized bodies, and thus exists to some extent everywhere, although in most places in very minute quantities. Dr. Smith has shown that when the soil is alkaline, decomposition of organic matter goes on with rapidity, but that a few days' cold weather is sufficient to change this to an acid condition, when of course the evolution of alkaline products of decomposition is stopped. The extreme condition of putrescence may be very readily produced in a soil by artificial means; the use of a little ammonia, for example, more than vegetation will bear. This causes the substances to putrefy, until the whole soil becomes fetid in the highest degree—in fact, a swamp of the worst kind, worse, perhaps, than was ever seen in nature. Such a soil would bring death everywhere. It is an artificial malaria. We can, then, produce malaria from the soil by fostering some of its tendencies; and Dr. Smith has shown, by the rapid acidification of soil in colder weather, why malaria is diminished by a lower temperature. As we can imitate malaria of some kinds, so can we also imitate the methods by which nature prevents it. The warm alkaline soil, moistened and washed with air and water, becomes acid, and decomposition is stopped to a great extent. Cold prevents the action, and drainage assists in the destruction of the malaria-breeding matter by a more active state of the soil. In cases where the soil is not sufficiently disinfected by nature, art can therefore step in and continue the process. By the use of disinfecting agents, Mr. McDougall has been able to feed sheep and cattle, and to retain them in health, on meadows constantly wet by irrigation with liquid manure.

The disinfectant used is obtained from the products of the distillation of coal tar, and the amount required is but small; the smaller animal life is rapidly destroyed by it, and the chemical decomposition of the organic matter in the soil is arrested. It would be possible to irrigate large districts in this manner at an extremely small expense; and it is probable that, in some cases, one or two applications would be sufficient to last for a long period, and by proceeding thus, destructive insects might also be destroyed. According to Dr. McCulloch, there are many parts of our own islands infected by malaria, which could, without difficulty, be cured by attention to the above facts; but the method is more especially applicable to other countries, where the disease attains to a greater violence than in England, and Dr. R. A. Smith hopes, before long, to have it tried on extensive districts in Italy.

These important researches therefore having shown that decomposition, to a most pernicious extent, is possible in soils; but that this may be arrested artificially, to the preservation of health, without the destruction of vegetation, we have not only a surer basis in our reasonings on the origin of malaria, but an almost certain process for its ultimate and total extinction.

The notice which we gave in our "Contemporary Science" a few weeks ago of a new gas burner invented by Dr. Frankland, has called forth a letter from a correspondent, in which he claims the priority of the invention to the Rev. Mr. Bowditch, whose most important researches on coal gas are now attracting the attention of all who are interested in the subject of gas illumination. Our correspondent merely states that this gentleman described the same apparatus some years ago; and in the absence of any definite date or reference to the printed description, we can only add that Dr. Frankland's first experiments were made in his house in the summer of 1855, where the burners have been in use ever since. We are not aware of any previous application of the same principle, and having always taken considerable interest in the combustion of gas, it is not likely that any such application would have been overlooked. If, however, Mr. Bowditch was the first to invent the burner, we feel sure that Dr. Frankland would be the last to wish to deprive him of any merit that may attach to the invention.

M. Couper, Sous-Prefet du Vigau, announces that he is in possession of a specific against the silkworm disease. He has taken healthy worms, diseased worms, and worms hatched from diseased eggs, and in all these, after being near the emanations from his newly-discovered specific, the infection was entirely arrested. He employs merely coal tar, placed in shallow vessels, about the chambers where the worms are contained, and according to his account, the manner in which the vapour (probably carbolic acid) of this agent affects the worms is remarkable. This plan, it will be seen, is one of the easiest to put into practice. Not only is the expense insignificant, not only can coal-tar be obtained wherever gas is burned, but its employment renders necessary no alteration whatever in the arrangements of the chambers. All that is necessary is, to place the vessels of coal-tar in some out-of-the-way places, and leave them to themselves, renewing them at rare intervals.

Water is usually considered to be colourless; the blue or green colour noticed when it is in large masses being attributed to impurities. From some experiments of Dr. Tyndall, which were recently exhibited at the Royal Institution by Dr. Frankland, it has been proved that water is not so colourless as might be supposed. A tin tube, fifteen inches long and three inches in diameter, was placed horizontally on a stand, and half filled with water. The tube was closed by plate-glass at each end, and a beam of electric light thrown through it. By this means an image of the contents of the tube was projected on a white screen. That portion of the tube which was filled with air allowed the light to pass through unchanged in colour, when they formed a white semicircle on the screen; but the rays which passed through the stratum of water were seen to have had a greenish blue colour communicated to them. The colour was found to vary from a pure green up to a blue, according to the purity of the water. It is thus evident that the colour of water is very appreciable; for, in a thickness of only fifteen feet, it exhibits a very considerable amount. There is, therefore, no difficulty in comprehending the fact that, in looking through a deeper stratum, such as we see in the Swiss lakes, and in the waters which we have around our own shores, this colour of water is in reality very considerable.

#### LEARNED SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS.

**Institute of Actuaries.**—A paper was read by Mr. Thomas Bond Sprague, on Mr. Gompertz's Law of Human Mortality, &c. In this paper, Mr. Sprague investigated a celebrated proposition and certain mathematical deductions from it put forth by Mr. Gompertz some years ago in papers read before the Royal Society. He also examined with great minuteness the grounds of certain claims to the independent origination of the proposition, and to the extension of the deductions following upon it. Mr. Gompertz's proposition briefly was, that "If the average exhaustion of a man's power to avoid death were such that at the end of equal small intervals of time he lost equal portions of his remaining power to oppose destruction which he had at the commencement of those intervals, then at any given age ( $x$ ) his power to avoid death or the intensity of his mortality might be denoted by a certain algebraical expression ( $a q^x$ );" and reasoning from this basis, he showed what the numbers living at successive ages should be, as represented in a table of mortality, and pointed out that the numbers thus theoretically determined corresponded closely with those derived from actual observation. This most ingenious and subtle theory Mr. Sprague critically examined, clearing away many misconceptions and misstatements in regard to it, which had, in some measure, arisen from typal errors in the paper printed at the Royal Society's press; tracing with great clearness the several steps of Mr. Gompertz's reasoning, and establishing, in a most able and satisfactory manner, his title as its originator and developer, in contradiction to the claims in question, the untenableness of which the writer demonstrated with remarkable force and perspicuity.

At the meeting of the **Entomological Society**, on Monday, Mr. Mitford exhibited a hybrid between the Geometridous moths *Phigalia pilosaria* and *Nyssia hispidaria*. The example, a male, bore a close resemblance to, and, in fact, could scarcely be distinguished from the latter species, to which the maternal parent belonged. Three other males and a female were also reared, but the wings of the former were all imperfectly developed. Mr. Sinton exhibited specimens of *Xylina conformis*, Treitschke, a new British moth of great beauty, captured last autumn, on the flowers of ivy, at Cardiff. The following papers were read:—"Descriptions and critical remarks on species of *Scymnus*, *Clambus*, and *Bryaxis*," by Mr. Waterhouse. "On the Geographical Distribution of Insects as exemplified by the Family *Zygæmidæ*," by Mr. Kirby. "Descriptions of Exotic Hymenoptera," by Mr. F. Smith. "Descriptions of new Exotic Butterflies, with figures of the Species," by Mr. Hewitson.

The **Photographic Society** met at King's College, on Tuesday evening, when Mr. Spiller described a new hygrometric-box, the object of which was to keep the paper in a dry state for any required length of time, by means of a layer of unslacked lime, so placed as to be entirely free from contact with the paper, but capable of absorbing all moisture from the atmosphere within the box.

At the **Institution of Civil Engineers**, on Tuesday, the first paper read was "Description of a Pier erected at Southport, Lancashire," by Mr. H. Hooper, Assoc. Inst. C.E.

This pier was constructed at right angles to the promenade, on an extensive tract of sands reaching to low water, a distance of nearly one mile. Its length



was 1,200 yards, and the breadth of the footway was 15 feet. At the sea-end there was an oblong platform, 100 feet long by 32 feet wide. The superstructure was supported upon piers, each consisting of three cast iron columns, the lowest length of which was sunk into the sand to the depth of 7 feet or 9 feet. These piles were provided at their bases with circular discs 18 inches in diameter, to form a bearing surface. A gas tube was passed down the inside of each pile, and was forced 4 inches into the sand; when a connection was made with the Water Company's mains, a pressure of water of about 50 lbs. to the inch was obtained, which was found sufficient to remove the sand from under the disc. There were cutters on the under side of the discs, so that on an alternating motion being given to the pile, the sand was loosened. After the pressure of water had been removed about five minutes, the piles settled down to so firm a bearing, that when tested with a load of 12 tons each, no signs of settlement could be perceived. The upper lengths of the columns had cast-iron bearing plates, for receiving the ends of the longitudinal lattice girders, each 50 feet long and 3 feet deep.

The advantages claimed for this mode of construction were:—Economy in the first cost, especially in sinking the piles, which did not amount to more than 4½d. per foot; the small surface exposed to the action of wind and waves; similarity of parts, thus reducing the cost to a minimum; and expeditious manner of obtaining a solid foundation—an important matter in tidal work. Two hundred and thirty-seven piles were thus sunk in six weeks.

The second Paper read was "On the Construction of Floating Beacons," by Mr. Bindon B. Stoney, Assoc. Inst. C.E.

The various forms of floating beacons hitherto employed were first referred to. Being aware that additional keels, or bilge boards, tended to prevent ships of certain forms from rolling, by the inertia of the mass of water constrained to move along with the ship, and that advantage had been taken of this circumstance in some light-ships, the author suggested that a similar arrangement might be applied to a floating beacon, and the result was the Keel Buoy.

The author believed that in the Keel Buoy there was a greater freedom from abrupt motion, than was possessed by other floating bodies having the same amount of displacement; it was light, was easily handled, and, on board ship, only occupied so much room as was sufficient for it to stand on end; thus contrasting favourably with the can, and egg-bottomed buoys.

In the course of the discussion a regret was expressed that the paper contained no details of the experience of the use of the keel buoy, and that there was so little additional information to what had been given in Mr. G. Herbert's paper in 1855. The cone-bottomed buoy was extensively employed by the Trinity corporation, as well as by foreign governments, and only two instances were known where such beacons had been injured by breaking from their moorings, and then they were destroyed by being thrown among rocks. At Liverpool, buoys so constructed, 20 feet in diameter, and standing 20 feet out of the water, safely rode out the late gales, and on no occasion had there been the slightest failure in that respect.

At the Ethnological Society, on Wednesday, Dr. Knox submitted a paper on the crania in the well-known pile of human bones at Hythe, in Kent. Hythe was one of the ancient Cinque Ports, and in the crypt of the church there is a vast heap of human bones, which have been assigned by a questionable local tradition to the slain of a battle between the Britons (?) and Danes in the ninth century. Dr. Knox had examined the skulls, and come to a conclusion that they might have belonged to Anglo-British and Danish races, or to the Frenchmen killed at Hythe, in the reign of Edward I. An animated discussion took place, in which the general tendency was towards the opinion that they were the collection at various periods of ordinary grave-yard bones. Some of the skulls exhibited wounds which had been made during the life-times of the individuals, but all the bones accessible to inspection being specimens selected on account of their size, form, thickness or thinness, or some other peculiar characteristic, while the general mass of the pile was inaccessible, it was thus considered a fair or definite inference could not be drawn in respect to their being those of any specific races; and it was further desirable to ascertain if there are any female remains, as those of boys had been found. Roman, Saxon, and Mediaeval pottery had also been found commingled in the heap, and there was presumptive evidence against the existence of any such pile in the reign of Henry VIII., as Leland, the antiquary, mentions the crypt, but makes no allusion to any bones whatever in it.

A second and valuable paper was then read by Mr. Lockart, "On the Miautsze," an aboriginal race of China. Much of the empire which we are best acquainted with, consists of the large plains near the mouths of rivers, where the important ports for our trade are situated. The interior of the country is richly diversified, and the land rises considerably towards the hilly districts that slope from the chains of mountains traversing all the western provinces, and spreading themselves out through the central parts of the country. The mountainous parts of the empire are brought into communication with the sea coast, partly by the great rivers, which flow through rich and fertile provinces, and partly by the many mountain-roads, which have been cut with great labour and much expense over the passes between the high ridges. The great road between Pekin and Sze-chuen, is by a mountain-route, which required great ability and many years of labour to complete; there is another from Shan-si to Kan-neck, which is one of the most extensive of its kind; and besides these grand trunk-roads, there are others by which goods are brought from province to province. It is amongst the mountains described, and the valleys they surround, that many tribes dwell which the author considers the aboriginal people of the country.

The great mass of the present inhabitants of China dwell in cities and villages, and are engaged in agriculture or commerce; but in the islands of Formosa and Hainan, as well as on the western frontier, there dwell savage tribes, who acknowledge no submission to the Emperor, and have ever maintained their independence. The island of Formosa is divided by a chain of mountains. On the western side, the Chinese passing from Futchien have gradually driven over the primitive inhabitants to the eastern side, and who live in a constant state of hostility with the settlers on the west coast. Notwithstanding this, there is a trade carried on with them through certain Chinese, who have learned their language, although the traffic is constantly liable to interruption by their hostile attacks. These people have their own chiefs and rulers, and their chief occupation is the culture of the ground, fishing, and hunting wild beasts in the forests with spears and bows and arrows. Gold-washing is carried on to a small extent in some districts. In Formosa is to be met with the *Aralia papyrifera*, the plant of which the pith is cut into the thin leaves known as "rice paper," so much used in China for making flowers and for painting on.

There are other mountain-tribes in the island of Hainan also unsubjected to Chinese rule. The Chinese live on the east coast, the harbours of which are commodious for their boats. Here they have large fishing-stations, and a great trade is maintained in salt-fish.

The author thought it would be found that the Chinese people, spreading over their territory, had driven back the aborigines, or, as they are called "the sons

of the soil," and forced them to take refuge in the islands of Formosa and Hainan; while those to the westward had been driven into the mountain districts of the Western Provinces, where they have since remained as a separate people.

The mountainous regions of Nonling and Meiling, between Kwingsi and Kweichau, give lodgment to many classes of the Miautsze, which race presents many points of physical difference besides being more ancient and less civilized than the Chinese around them. They are smaller in stature, have shorter necks, their features are more angular, and they have, moreover, a different language. In the southern parts of Kweichau there are many military stations to keep in check the Miautsze races who inhabit the lofty regions.

The name of Miautsze is not indiscriminately used by the Chinese for all mountaineers, but is applied by the people themselves to their own tribes, of which there are about forty scattered over the mountains in Kwongtung, Hunan, and Kwongsi, as well as in Kweichau. One tribe inhabiting Lipo-Sien, is called Yau-jin, or wild men; and although they occasionally come down to Canton to trade, the citizens of that place firmly believe them to have short tails like apes. They carry arms, but are not unpeaceably disposed, resisting, however, every attempt at penetration into their fastnesses. The Yau-jin first settled in Kwongsi, and thence passed into Lien-chau about the 12th century, where they have ever since maintained their footing. A Chinese traveller says that in the muddy districts "some of them live in huts constructed upon the branches of trees."

These aboriginal tribes of China, to a great extent, live on the eastern slopes of the mountain ranges, the western slopes of which in South-Eastern Asia, are peopled by the numerous tribes of Loas and Karens, who are our tried and faithful adherents in the territory of Burmah, and there are probably strong marks of similarity of origin and identity of race between them. The Jesuit missionary, Gabriel de Magallans, who travelled through China in the latter half of the 17th century, describes the habits of these aboriginal people, and their independence of Chinese authority, in language applicable to them at the present hour.

Mr. Pengelly has requested us to correct the statement, in our report of the previous joint meeting of the Ethnological and Archaeological Societies, of the occurrence of a periwinkle shell in the astralagus of the bear from Brixham cavern, no marine shells having been met with at all throughout the whole of the excavations there.

At the Society of Antiquaries, on Thursday, Captain Windus, F.S.A., gave "an account of an ancient Galley, belonging to the Knights of St. John, and sheathed with metal, three hundred years ago *circa*;" and F. H. Major, Esq., F.S.A., read a paper "On the history of the discovery of Australia."

#### METEOROLOGY FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY DURING TWENTY-ONE YEARS FOR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF LONDON.

(By JAMES GLAISHER, Esq., F.R.S., Royal Observatory, Greenwich.)

Years.	Mean Reading of the Barometer at Level of the Sea.	Greatest Heat.	Greatest Cold.	Range of Temperature in Month.	Mean of Air.	Departure from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Rain.	
								Number of days it fell.	Amount Collected.
	In.	°	°	°	°	°			In.
1841	29.88	54.6	12.4	42.2	35.3	-3.2	...	9	1.3
1842	30.06	53.2	26.4	26.8	40.8	+2.3	84	13	1.1
1843	29.65	51.9	20.3	31.6	36.0	-2.5	91	16	2.4
1844	29.68	50.4	20.0	30.4	35.2	-3.3	88	16	2.3
1845	30.02	48.5	7.7	40.8	32.7	-5.8	86	12	0.9
1846	30.03	62.3	26.9	35.4	43.9	+5.4	87	12	1.5
1847	29.96	55.0	10.2	44.8	35.4	-3.1	89	15	1.4
1848	29.70	55.0	29.2	25.8	43.4	+4.9	86	19	2.6
1849	30.28	58.0	26.8	31.2	43.2	+4.7	86	19	2.2
1850	30.01	58.2	30.0	28.2	44.7	+6.2	83	13	1.3
1851	30.07	57.1	23.7	33.4	40.1	+1.6	85	14	1.2
1852	30.04	57.4	24.9	32.5	40.8	+2.3	81	12	0.9
1853	29.71	45.0	20.5	24.5	33.3	-5.2	76	13	0.9
1854	30.22	57.0	23.5	33.5	39.5	+1.0	84	9	1.0
1855	29.77	48.4	11.1	37.3	29.4	-9.1	99	11	1.4
1856	30.08	58.0	27.5	30.5	42.0	-3.5	87	10	1.1
1857	30.13	56.9	20.0	36.9	39.2	-0.7	87	3	0.2
1858	30.02	52.8	23.5	29.3	34.6	-3.9	84	6	1.7
1859	30.00	59.0	30.5	28.5	43.1	+4.6	81	12	0.9
1860	30.04	53.5	23.2	30.3	35.7	-2.8	80	13	1.1
1861	29.87	56.0	24.4	31.6	42.1	+3.6	90	10	1.8

The pressures of the atmosphere are shown in the second column; their mean or average is 29.97 inches; the result in the month just passed was 29.87 inches, being 0.10 inch below the average. This pressure has been exceeded fifteen times during the preceding twenty years; the greatest was 30.28 in 1849. It has been less in five instances; the lowest pressure was 29.65 in the year 1843.

The highest temperature of the air in each February is shown in column three; that in 1861 was 56°, and it ranks amongst the highest; it was exceeded, however, in nine cases during the period; the highest was 62.3° in the year 1846; and it was lower in eleven instances; the lowest of all was 45° in 1853.

The lowest temperature of the air during February is noted in the next column; that for the month just passed was 24.4°; it did not fall so low in seven cases, and it fell lower in thirteen instances. In 1859 the lowest reading was 30.5°; in 1815 it was 7.7°.

The mean of the highest temperatures by day during February, 1861, was 48.2°; the mean of the preceding twenty years is 44.6°, therefore the high day temperature was 3½° warmer than usual.

The mean of the lowest temperature by night during February, 1861, was 36.9°; the mean of the preceding twenty years was 33.2°, therefore the nights were warmer than usual to the amount of 3½° nearly.

The extreme range of temperature in each month is shown in column five. The largest was 42½° in 1841, and the smallest 24½° in 1852. In 1861 it was 31½°.

The mean temperature of the air is shown in column six; that for 1861 was 42.1°; the mean for twenty years is 38.5°; and this value (42.1°) has only been exceeded five times during the whole of this period. When compared with the mean of the preceding ninety years, it is found to be about 4° higher. In the year 1855 it was as low as 29.4°; and in the years 1845, 1853, 1858, and 1860, it was low. It was as high as 44.7° in the year 1850.

The departure of the monthly mean temperature from the average is shown in the next column. The sign — affixed implies that the mean was below, and the sign + that it was above the average. In the year 1855, the coldest February during the series, was 9.1° below; and in 1845 it was as much as 5.8° below the average; in the next year, 1846, it was 5.4° above; thus these two successive Februaries differed no less than 11.2° from each other. Again, in 1854, the mean temperature was 1.6° above, and in 1855 it was 9.1° below; thus showing a difference of 10.7° between these two consecutive Februaries.

The mean temperature of the dew-point for February, 1861, was 39.4°, being



2.7° below that of the air. The average value is 34.6°. Therefore there was more water present in the air than usual.

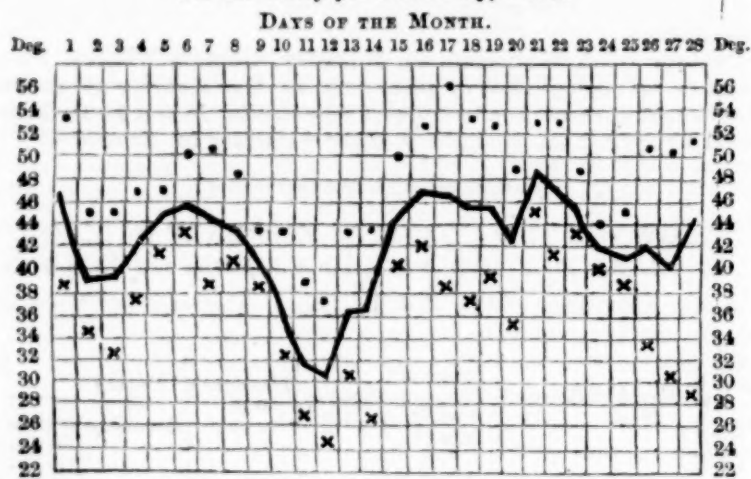
The degree of humidity of the air is shown in column eight; that for 1861 was 90, on a scale supposing air quite dry to be represented by 0, and quite wet by 100. The mean of this month from twenty years' observations is 86. Therefore the air during the past month was more humid than usual. In the year 1855 it was as high as 99, and in 1843 it was 91; and these are the only instances of a degree of humidity exceeding 90, during the preceding twenty years.

The number of days on which rain fell is shown in column nine. The average for twenty years is eleven. In 1861 it was ten, in 1848 and 1849 it fell on nineteen days in each year, and in 1857 it fell on three days only.

The fall of rain in each month is shown in the last column; that for the past month is 1½ inches. This fall has only been exceeded four times, viz., in 1843, 1844, 1848, and 1849, when it fell to the depths of 2.4 inches, 2.3 inches, 2.6 inches, and 2.2 inches respectively. More rain fell during the past month than in any February since the year 1849. In 1857 the rain-fall amounted to less than a quarter of an inch for the whole month.

The annexed diagram shows the distribution of temperature during the month; the black dots above the continuous line show the highest temperature reached each day, and the crosses below the lowest each night; the space between them, on the same day, represents the range of temperature during the twenty-four hours of that day. The wavy line shows the average or mean temperature of midnight to midnight, or of day and night, and if we compare this with an imaginary line passing through 38½°, the average daily temperature for the month, we shall find that the temperature was below its average on five days only, viz., from the 10th to the 14th, and above it on every other day. The excess of temperature on the 1st and 16th days exceeded 9°, and was more than 10° on the 21st. The day of lowest temperature in the month was the 12th, and which was 8° below the average.

Diagram, showing the maximum, the average, and the minimum temperatures of the air daily for February, 1861.



On the 7th and 8th days, when the temperature began to decline, a most remarkable cold took place in America and Canada, the temperature descending to -20° and -30° at many places.

At Boston, on the 7th day, the weather was mild, but a singular cold set in during the afternoon, and in fifteen hours the temperature fell 58½°, and in eighteen hours it fell 60°. This very large amount, however, was exceeded at many inland places. At Hanover, N. H., on the 7th, at 1 p.m., the thermometer stood at 37°, and at -32° next morning at 7 o'clock, showing a fall of 69° in eighteen hours, and this very remarkable cold was general. By looking at the above diagram it will be seen that our cold period followed this by a few days.

The prevailing wind was S.W.; the relative frequency of the winds, reduced to the four cardinal points, were, N. 5; E. 4; S. 9; and W. 10.

On the 21st day there was a very heavy gale of wind. From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. it blew with pressures varying from 3 lbs. to 12 lbs. on the square foot; from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. with pressures varying from 13 lbs. to 25 lbs., passing with a velocity of fully 70 miles per hour, and a great deal of damage was done, many trees were blown up by the roots; after this the gale gradually decreased to 5 lbs. by midnight.

The mean temperature of the month, in groups of ten years, for the preceding 90 years, are shown as follows:—

The mean for the ten Februaries ending	1779 was.....	37.7
"	"	36.6
"	"	38.5
"	"	38.5
"	"	39.2
"	"	38.1
"	"	38.5
"	"	38.4
"	"	38.2

Therefore there is not so marked a difference in the temperature of this month in the period of 90 years, as was shown in the number for February 9 for January; it seems to be but slightly warmer.

#### CELESTIAL PHENOMENA AND ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR MARCH.

In these notes we do not intend to dwell long on the features of the principal constellation of the month, Leo, for, as the two largest planets of our system, Jupiter and Saturn, are now shining brilliantly within that region of the heavens, we think it preferable to devote our allotted space chiefly to the points of interest which attach to the former. We stay a moment, however, to point out Regulus, or "the lion's heart"—a standard Greenwich star ( $\alpha$ ) with a distant pale purple companion—which may be readily found through the well-known "pointers" of the "Great Bear," for, as they serve to show the Pole Star to the north, so an imaginary line continued about 45° southward, points to the constellation of which it is the principal object. There is also a beautiful double star ( $\gamma$  Leonis) on the shoulder of the Lion, close to the mane, which, from the close observation of astronomers, appears to have a slow progressive angular acceleration, sufficient to give perhaps a revolution, or annus magnus, of about a thousand years.

Méchain recorded, in 1781, a lucid white nebula on the ribs, and Herschel, in 1783, a pair of bright nebulae on the belly of the lion. As a bright nebula preceding the Lion's hind paws is an enormous mass of luminous matter, an outlier of the vast nebulous tract, placed nearly at right angles to the Galaxy, of groups of spherical nebulae, as remote, compared with our sidereal system, as the stars themselves are, comparatively to the distance of our planet from the sun.

The most ancient notation of Jupiter is furnished in Ptolemy's tenth book of

the Almagest, where the planet is recorded to have eclipsed a star in Cancer, on the 3rd of September, 240 B.C., an incident confirmed by a similar eclipse of Castor in Gemini, by the same planet, in November, 1716. Of all the planets belonging to our system it is by far the largest, the most brilliant, and the most rapid in its course. Fourteen hundred times bigger than the Earth, its days are only ten hours long, and its enormous orbit of a thousand millions of miles in diameter is traversed in a period of 4,332 of our days—a rate of 500 miles a minute, or sixty times faster than the flight of a cannon-ball.



Its four satellites were amongst the first discoveries of Galileo's telescope, and its singular dark belts were shortly afterwards noted by Zuppi and Fontani, of Naples. The first of its satellites is 2,440 miles in diameter, 278,000 miles from the planet, round which it revolves in about eighteen hours and a half; the second satellite is 2,190 miles across, nearly 445,000 miles away, and revolves in about three days and a half; the third and largest has a breadth of 3,580 miles, is 700,000 miles distant, and occupies a trifle more than a week in its sidereal revolutions. The diameter of the fourth is 3,060 miles, its distance from the primary 1,243,500 miles, and it performs its circuit in sixteen days.

But these satellites of Jupiter have aided science in a way little anticipated. The Danish astronomer Römer, remarking that the actual periods of their eclipses varied from the calculations of astronomers, the predicted times being invariably too late when Jupiter was nearest the earth, and too soon when that planet was farthest from it, was led to the discovery that this was evidently due to the time taken in the transmission of the rays of sun-light reflected back to our earth; and hence the data for the well-known computation that the rate at which light travels is 200,000 miles in a second of time.

During the past week Mr. W. H. Wheeler, of Oxford, has recorded, in a letter to the *Times*, the remarkable appearance on the 3rd inst. of the fourth satellite, in its transit over the disc of this planet. The satellite, passing across in (4h. 54m.) nearly the same time as the semi-rotation (4h. 57m.) of its primary, and in the same direction, appeared like a dark spot on its surface, so great is the difference in the intensity of the light reflected by Jupiter and this sombre attendant.

The other Jovian moons appeared in full brilliancy at the same time, and offered a strong contrast to their very pale companion.

The density of Jupiter is much less than that of our earth, and indeed little if any more than it would be if its entire mass were constituted of water; while the great oblateness of Jupiter's form is confirmatory of such a view, as are also the belts, which astronomers regard as the darker intermediate portions of the planet visible between the dense cloud-zones which reflect a brighter light, and which maintain their comparatively constant appearance, for they are in reality subject to great and continual changes and modifications, by reason of the atmospheric currents produced by its rotation, in like manner, but more enduring and regular than our trade winds. From the near verticality of its axis, the Jovian seasons must assume the condition of a continual spring, and the difference between summer and winter must be very slight.

So remote, however, is Jupiter from the sun (five hundred millions of miles), that the rays which impinge upon its broad surface would seem, unless assisted by an internal heat in the planet itself, scarcely more than sufficient to redeem it from the condition of a gigantic globe of ice. For the same reason, the near verticality of its axis, the extreme difference between the longest and shortest day even in 60° of the planet's latitude, would not exceed some five or six and thirty minutes.

Under the telescope, there is no object in our planetary system, except the moon, that presents an equally magnificent spectacle. A power of four or five linear is sufficient to exhibit a sensible disc, a power of thirty will show the oblateness of its form, and the belts; but to see the finer streaks which prevail towards their polar margins, powers of from two hundred to three hundred linear are required.

Our notice of Saturn we reserve for another occasion; but the respective positions of both planets, as they at present are to be seen in the constellation Leo, are noted in the preceding diagram.

We are indebted to an intelligent correspondent for the following observations on the probable re-appearance of the temporary star of 1752:—

PERIODIC STARS.—It is now nearly 300 years since the Danish Tycho Brahe, surveying in the evening the northern region of the heavens, as he was about to enter his observatory house of Uraniburg, on the 11th of November, 1572, was amazed by the portent of a new star in the heavens. Knowing the stars from early boyhood (no difficult acquirement as he affirms), he remarked at once, in the angle of Cassiopeia's chair, as if desiring that lady, by its strength and lustre, not to sit so forward on the edge, a star of unusual brightness, which he averred not to have been in that place as much as half an hour before, and certainly not upon the preceding evening, although records exist of it as early as the 6th of August preceding. The star is gone now, and with it the cushion of the chair, and Cassiopeia sits as forward on the edge as ever. But the peregrine and adventitious



visitor remained fixed and immovable for full eighteen months; at one time visible, as Venus has been during the past October of 1859, in open day, and then again fading away, and only disappearing at length in March of 1574. Tycho published his "Prophetical Conclusion of the New and much admired Star of the North," and to prove its fixity, he published his observations of the Sun and Venus along with it to fix the position of the ecliptic with respect to the equator, and of the zodiacal stars to fix the positions of these with respect to the ecliptic, and of the northern stars to fix their position with respect to the zodiacal stars, and of the new star ("invisitata et nullius aevi memoria prius visa stella") to fix its position with respect to the other stars of the north; and thus he overthrew the assertion of many astronomers who maintained that the portent was sub-lunary, and placed it far beyond dispute in the region of the fixed stars. His labours had often gained him the ear and the favour of princes by his exercises in that second art of astronomy which was religiously received as the prophetic branch of the mysterious craft. And this crowning publication of his skill drew from our King James I. a couplet of Latin elegiacs with an English version.

"What Phaeton dared was by Apollo done,  
Who ruled the fiery horses of the sun.  
More Tycho dares, he rules the stars above,  
And is Urania's favourite and love."

JAC. REB.

Others, however, labour and have laboured in the same field with Tycho. A similar appearance moved Hipparchus to catalogue 1,081 of the visible fixed stars with respect to the zodiac and equator. Ptolemy made Epicydes the order of the day among the wandering stars. Uley Bey, at Samarcand, added 100 star places to existing catalogues. Copernicus transported the centre of his crystal spheres from under our feet to the centre of the sun. Kepler and Galileo immortalized their names in the same year of 1609; one by his treatise on the elliptic motion of the planet Mars, the other by his telescopic scrutiny of that planet and of its fellows. Kepler's scholars, in 1604, observing Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn grouped together in Ophiucus, as they now will shortly be in the neighbourhood of Leo, beheld a stranger take a fourth place among them, and eclipse them all in brightness ere it vanished in 1606. Let us hope that, if the period of 300 years lately presumed for Tycho's star be correct, and we may live to see it burst forth any night, the delicate spider lines of our modern observations will tell us great things of these "inexplicable wonders." We may trust to the zeal and perseverance of our own time in this cause not to be eclipsed by the labours of former ages, when we call to mind an assertion that we have heard made to the following effect, that the recorded observations made at Greenwich during the last quarter of a century alone are of such amplitude and accuracy as to render needless for the elucidation of our solar system the whole of former observations, were all those precious fruits of labour now suddenly lost, burned, or otherwise destroyed.

A. S. H.

## THE DRAMA.

### HAYMARKET THEATRE.—"A DUKE IN DIFFICULTIES."

It is seldom that the patience of an audience is more severely tried than it was on the first representation of the "new and original" comedy from the pen of Mr. Tom Taylor. A totally undramatic, ill-constructed story, with a dialogue of the flattest and most insipid character, scarcely enlivened by a sparkle of wit or even smartness, the three long acts dragged on most wearily. The audience did not hiss—it yawned. Scene succeeded scene without any apparent connection with the preceding, or without leading to any result, except to bring the actors on the stage to recite their insipid parts, and to make their exit as speedily as possible, to escape the storm of hisses they evidently expected the audience had in store for them. The play, if such it may be called, is so totally unsuited to the talents of the Haymarket company, that we are surprised that they did not, one and all, protest against lending themselves to inflicting upon the public the rubbish with which they were furnished. Mr. Taylor has of late presumed too much upon public discrimination and forbearance. It cannot, however, be expected that, at the rate he manufactures comedies, they can all possess equal claims to consideration. If he writes for money only, he may find his account in rapid production; if for fame, his popularity will quickly be changed for an inevitable notoriety. With the dramatic talent he undoubtedly possesses, we are astonished that he should risk his name in lending it to so utterly a worthless production as "The Duke in Difficulties."

It is hardly worth while to attempt to unravel the conflicting complications that constitute the plot, or rather no plot. There is a bankrupt German duke, who, abandoned by his courtiers, is in despair at the expected arrival of a certain envoy. In this emergency a French manager arrives with his company, and a plot is arranged by which the *artistes* shall personate the court for the nonce. They acquit themselves so well that the royal visitors are delighted, much more so than the audience, and the Landgrave falls in love with the prettiest of the actresses. After the elaboration of a vast deal of insipid and superfluous detail, very characteristic of a petty German court by the bye, the Grand Duke obtains the hand of the Princess Wilhelmina, and *Colombe*, the pretty actress, who turns out to be of good family, is married to the Landgrave. The weight of the piece rests entirely on Mrs. Stirling and her daughter, who personate characters identical with their own position. The frequent allusions, therefore, that were applicable to them in their individuality were greeted with the only applause that could be extorted from the audience. The house was nearly filled with *claqueurs*, who, by their indiscriminate applause, disturbed the quiet slumbers of the genuine portion of the audience; and although the piece was announced for repetition, it can hardly be expected to survive the verdict of a disinterested public.

### THE LYCEUM.—"THE HOUSE ON THE BRIDGE OF NOTRE DAME."

If popularity be any test of merit, pieces of the class to which "The House on the Bridge of Notre Dame" belongs should be the most meritorious, for certainly no other form of dramatic productions will continue to attract crowded audiences night after night for six consecutive months or more. The critic, in his examination, may fail to discover any singular merit in these productions which might appear to justify this high degree of popular favour, and therefore be forced to the conclusion that the power to excite morbid sensations is sufficient to ensure their success. Moreover, when a supernatural element is introduced, popularity is doubly certain; hence it is, that the "Corsican Brothers" has been played more frequently during the term of a manager's tenure than any other piece, however superior in merit, he could produce. The causes of this popular preference are sufficiently evident; we may marvel at it, and withhold our approval of such morbid taste; but there stands the fact, and it must be chronicled. It is some satisfaction, however, to know that the majority of the pieces of this class are not of native growth, but foreign productions, which, like the foreign wines most in favour with the British public, must possess a fiery flavour to be palatable.

The story of the *House on the Bridge of Notre Dame* is based on a contention of villany against villany, resulting in the triumph of virtue. The play opens

with a death-bed scene—that of Count de Fouquerolles (Mr. James Johnstone), who, surrounded by a host of friends and retainers, communicates to his wife, the Countess (Miss Rawlings), his niece, Mademoiselle Adeline (Miss M. Ternan), and his brother, the Chevalier de Fouquerolles (Mr. George Vining), an intemperate debauchee, that he has bequeathed all his property to Ernest de la Garde (Madame Celeste), his wife's son by a former marriage. The Count also informs his wife that he had confided his love for her to a once dear friend, who betrayed both that confidence and himself by marrying her, having previously seduced and deserted a young girl who had borne him a son. The Count, at his marriage, insists upon his wife's separation from her son; but as a dying reparation for the wrong, he makes Ernest his heir, and cuts off his dissolute brother from any share in his property.

Upon this disposal of the Count's property hinges all the machinery of the story. The Chevalier is, of course, dissatisfied, and immediately forms his plans to obtain his brother's wealth. Ernest has long been a resident at the Island of Martinique, but having been sent for by both the Count and Countess, is now on his way home, and hourly expected. The Chevalier resolves to intercept him. He gets possession, from a notary's clerk, Pettiso (Mr. John Rouse), of a letter addressed to Ernest at Vincennes, and secretly resolves that Ernest shall never reach Paris. He therefore waylays him on his route, and decoys him to a roadside inn, kept by a confederate in villany (Rigobert), and there proposes to Ernest that he shall forego his rights on condition of receiving a moderate income. Ernest cannot see the advantages of such an arrangement and a dispute ensues, followed by a duel, in which Ernest is virtually murdered by his adversary. Previously, however, the Chevalier has learned that Ernest is deeply in love with Melanie de St. Ange (Miss Kate Saville), a creole, and that he intends to return to her after obtaining possession of his wealth. With the assistance of Rigobert (Mr. Villiers), the body of the murdered Ernest is let down through a trap-door into a cellar beneath, and the Chevalier, commanding Rigobert to burn Ernest's pocket-book, takes his departure. Rigobert, however, thinks of a little plot of his own in which the pocket-book may prove useful, and instead of burning it places it in his pocket. He is soon startled from his meditations by the sudden entrance of a gipsy youth, the very counterpart in form and feature with the murdered Ernest. The appearance of this youth, also personated by Madame Celeste, startles even the audience, for the representative, who a few moments before, clad in a smart uniform, had been dropped into the cellar, now enters the door in the guise of a peasant. Rigobert's first impulse is to peep into the cellar and ascertain if the dead man be still there. Satisfied on that score, he concludes that the strange youth, who calls himself Zambaro, is not a ghost, and he therefore speedily resolves to turn his singular resemblance to the murdered man to his own special benefit. He will introduce Zambaro to the Countess as the real Ernest. The fact of the Countess not having seen her son for several years will facilitate his design, and the pocket-book of letters will afford ample proof of identity. The slight scruples displayed by Zambaro are soon overcome by the prospect of obtaining a large fortune, in which, of course, Rigobert expects to share. Meanwhile, Pettiso, the notary's clerk, repenting of his confidence in the Chevalier, has followed him to the inn, and concealing himself, is witness both of the murder, and of Rigobert's interview and plot with Zambaro. For the purpose of concealing the crime he has helped to commit, Rigobert sets fire to the tavern and hastens away, while Pettiso has barely time to save himself by descending into the cellar where the body of the murdered Ernest is lying.

At this point, the first act fitly terminates. In the second, we see the Countess and Adeline awaiting Ernest, the heir, and the Chevalier, haunted by remorse for his crime, conscious that their expectations will be disappointed. To his great surprise and dismay, Ernest, or, rather, his substitute, arrives, and is welcomed to his new home. But the Countess, when she embraces her long lost son, does not feel satisfied, for he does not look as she expected he would. As for the Chevalier, his perplexity is very great; for although he is quite satisfied that Zambaro is an impostor, he dare not attempt to unmask him, as that would be to betray his own crime. But he cannot allow himself to be baffled: he must find some one who can unmask the counterfeit Zambaro. Fortunately, Pettiso, the notary's clerk, comes to his rescue, informs him of the plot Rigobert has contrived, and also that Melanie St. Ange has followed her lover from Martinique, and is now in Paris, expecting that night to meet him at a house on the Bridge of Notre Dame. The Chevalier wisely calculates that the eyes of a loving girl will detect differences, which those of indifferent persons would fail to discover, and thus he flatters himself he may yet be able to secure his aim. Melanie, therefore, is to be invited to a large party, and there the exposure is to take place. But Rigobert overhears this ingenious scheme, and hence arises a counter-plot: it will be as much to his interest to get Melanie out of the way as it will be that of the Chevalier to produce her. The house on the Bridge conveniently proves to be the residence of Rigobert's sister, and he induces Zambaro, who, while personating the son of the Countess, has become enamoured of Adeline, to meet Melanie as the real Ernest, and persuades her to quit Paris, on the plea that, in obedience to the wishes of his mother, he must marry his cousin Adeline. If this scheme be frustrated by Melanie's penetration or obstinacy, the Seine flows conveniently beneath the floor of the house, and another murder, if deemed necessary to the success of villany, may be committed without fear of detection.

In the third act the House on the Bridge is "built" in section upon the stage, with its interior open to the view of the audience. Those who remember the once popular drama of "Jonathan Bradford," can readily imagine the construction and action of this scene. Melanie, as might be expected, quickly detects the impostor in Zambaro, who, moved by her tenderness and despair, repents, and is anxious to save her. But their conversation has been listened to by Rigobert, who is waiting, with Pettiso and a boatman, to hurry the maiden to her doom, should she prove obstinate. She is carried off in the boat, while Zambaro is locked in the house by his associate Rigobert, who, when he finds the youth determined to confess his imposture, mercilessly wounds him with a pistol-shot.

The last scene represents a ball given in honour of Ernest, whose return from Paris is momentarily expected. After much anxiety at his delay in making his appearance, a commotion is heard without, and Zambaro enters, mortally wounded, confesses himself an impostor, though not criminal, and accuses the Chevalier of the murder of Ernest, then dies on a couch, surrounded by the guests, to whom it becomes known that he is the illegitimate son of the Countess.

Rigobert, too, who is at this juncture brought in by *gendarmes*, charged with attempting the murder of Melanie, also accuses the Chevalier of the murder, but being an acknowledged accomplice, his testimony is of little worth. The Chevalier triumphantly demands who is there to prove the accusation of the dead Zambaro, when, to his consternation, the real Ernest, whom he believes he had murdered, opportunely enters clad in the uniform he wore at the time, and claims the Fouquerolles estates. He is instantly recognized by Melanie, who has escaped the fate prepared for her by Rigobert, and also by the Countess, his mother. It now appears that Ernest, when wounded, fainted from loss of blood, and was



restored by Pettiso, who had concealed himself in the cellar, and by becoming the confidant of both villains, has succeeded in defeating both. He had plotted with Rigobert solely with a view of saving Melanie and Ernest, and restoring them to each other. Adeline is provided with a lover in the person of a young artist; Rigobert is handed over to the criminal authorities; while the Chevalier, having committed no murder, is generously allowed to march off scot free.

It would require a three volume novel to develop this complexity of incidents with anything like minuteness. Much of the interest created is due to complete and rapid changes from the young Ernest and the gipsy boy Zambaro, both personated with great skill by Madame Celeste. Her intelligent earnest acting continually elicited applause. The piece is very well cast, all the characters being efficiently represented. Mr. George Vining personates the aristocratic villain with admirable coolness and tact. The other villain, of inferior grade, loses nothing of his glory in the hands of Mr. Villiers. The impassioned creole finds an intelligent representative in Miss Kate Saville, while Miss Lydian Thompson is well-fitted with a pert, lively character in *Colette*, a protégé of the Countess, who is given to the notary's clerk, Pettiso, as a reward for his exertion in defeating the machinations of a pair of villains. The drama has met with decided success, and, as it hits the popular taste, it may be expected to have as long a run as "Colleen Bawn," to which, in point of ingenuity and "thrilling interest" it is infinitely superior.

### MUSIC.

#### MR. WALLACE'S NEW OPERA.

THE "Amber Witch," a romantic opera in four acts, the music by W. Vincent Wallace, and the words by Henry F. Chorley, was represented for the first time on Thursday, the 28th of February. The opera had been announced for a considerable time previous to its production. Rumour had spoken in the highest terms as to its merits, and the great expectations which it raised in the mind of the public were fully warranted by the success of "Lurline," represented last year at the Royal English Opera, Covent-garden. A new era seems to have commenced for our native composers. What all the preaching about "the neglect of native talent," "want of encouragement to young composers," "partiality of the public for foreign music and foreign singers," and "caprices of fashion," had been unable to achieve, was simply brought about by rivalry and jealousy between managers and composers. To Miss Pyne and Mr. Harrison, the lessees of the Royal English Opera, belongs the honour of having led the way to the new state of things; they devoted all the resources of their magnificent establishment to new operas of English composers; and although at first Mr. Balfe had the lion's share, he was soon followed by other men of great talent and promise, like Mr. Wallace, Mr. Alfred Mellon, Mr. Leslie, and others. Mr. E. T. Smith, the enterprising lessee of Her Majesty's Theatre, soon perceived that things were taking a different turn, and being always ready to study and follow public taste, he at once determined not to remain behind. Instead of giving hacknied operas with foreign singers and English words, he wisely emulated the example set by the rival establishment, by producing English operas with English singers. All the available first-rate talent was forthwith engaged; everything was done, without regard to expense and sacrifice. He secured the services of the greatest public favourites, such as Mr. Sims Reeves, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mr. Santley, &c. The orchestra and chorus, which had hitherto been on an indifferent scale, were now selected with the greatest care, and rendered as complete as possible; the operas produced with the utmost liberality and splendour; in short, the work was done conscientiously, and complete success was the well-earned result.

Mr. Macfarren's "Robin Hood," the first opera brought out by Mr. Smith with the new singers, had an unprecedented run. It was a triumph for both composer and manager, and this emboldened the lessee to make a second attempt. Mr. Wallace was next applied to. He composed the music to the "Amber Witch," and from the effect which it produced on Thursday last, there is not the least doubt but that another triumph and an equally prosperous career awaits the last work of this gifted musician.

It is difficult and must frequently be hazardous to judge of the merits of a new opera after a single hearing. There is so much to observe, so much to listen to, that it becomes almost impossible to form a just opinion as to its beauties or its defects. If this be true of works of average merit, it is the more so when we have to deal with a production which is of the highest order; but having had the advantage of a second hearing, we can safely state that, in our opinion, Mr. Wallace has in this opera far surpassed all his former efforts and given to the world a work of great beauty and artistic value. To be candid, we cannot say that it can lay claim to decided originality, unless it be in the treatment of the orchestra, which is throughout masterly and elaborate. Not so, however, with the music that is sung. It occasionally lacks that which the French call "*le cachet*,"—a quality which is of the greatest importance in all musical compositions, especially for the stage, and which goes far to make them popular and lasting: a fact which is proved by the works of Rossini, Auber, Meyerbeer, Donizetti, and even Verdi. We leave Beethoven and Mozart out of the question.

There is one thing, however, which must be observed of Mr. Wallace's music, particularly in this opera: it is always natural and flowing. There is no hunting after curious effects, no affectation of sentiment, no attempt at impossible things. One feels and sees that the composer has written his music *con amore*, and thrown his whole soul and mind into the task he has undertaken.

We cannot speak too highly of the excellence of the manner in which the piece is put upon the stage. We have rarely witnessed a more perfect *ensemble*, certainly not in English theatres. The *mise-en-scène* is beautiful and picturesque; the dresses are fresh and in keeping with the period at which the action is supposed to have taken place; everything is accomplished with the greatest liberality, and we must compliment Mr. E. T. Smith on the taste he has displayed in the production of this opera. That the principal singers were thoroughly up to the "mark" will be easily believed, when we state that the composer superintended all the rehearsals, and assisted with his advice. As to the orchestra and chorus, they left nothing to be desired.

We have neither time nor space to give a complete outline of the plot, nor to do full justice to the music. We can only cite a few pieces, which we thought at the time particularly worthy of attention. We cannot, however, omit mentioning that the plot of the Opera is taken from Dr. Meinhold's "Amber Witch," a novel published in Germany some years ago. Although the dramatic interest of the book is not sufficiently powerful to enchain the interest of the audience, the ideas and words are very poetical and graceful, and the versification always natural, and well adapted for music.

The opera begins with a short but effective overture, during which the curtain rises; a chorus of villagers, afterwards joined by Mary (Madame Lemmens Sherrington) and Elsie (Miss Huddart), is the first thing that strikes us as being

fresh and pretty. This is followed by a trio between Mary, Rudiger, her lover (Mr. Sims Reeves), and the Pastor, her father (Mr. Patey). Agreeable to her father's request, who says, "Sing to thy father, darling, while we eat," Mary sings a ballad in A flat, 6-8 time, which is graceful and simple, although the accompaniment in the second verse is somewhat affected. This is followed by another trio with chorus, which is also a capital piece of writing, although rather gloomy. Then enters the Commandant (Mr. Santley), who sings an air in the martial style with great effect, though we do not like the *stretta*, which is commonplace, and does not well express the meaning of the words.

In the fifth scene of the first act occurs a romance, exquisitely sung by Mr. Sims Reeves. It is very plaintive and *distingué*, and will, no doubt, become popular; likewise a song, with chorus, for the same gentleman, beginning with the same phrase for the trumpet that occurs in the overture; it is vigorous and characteristic. The next scene affords Madame Sherrington an opportunity of showing her great powers of execution in a sparkling and brilliant rondo in A major. She must, however, take care not to strain her voice and attempt too much. In this song, as in others, the high D is frequently reached, but not always satisfactorily. A charming quintet precedes the finale of this act, which is full of life and energy. Though the audience seemed very pleased, the applause was by no means great (we do not speak of the first performance). Formerly the public applauded too much, to get an encore; but now that this nuisance is done away with, it does not applaud at all. Extremes meet! Mr. Wallace was, however, called before the curtain; also the principal singers—it may be truly said, *all* the singers, nay, even those who scarcely opened their mouths. If it is considered a merit to sit on a horse and wear an embroidered mantle, then the horse and the tailor should also claim approbation.

The second act is short, but contains one or two pleasing morceaux. One is a duet between the two lovers, and the other a solo, occurring at the end of this duet, which is one of the most beautiful things in the opera. It is in the key of C, with an accompaniment for the harp, which gives it a very sweet character, and was so deliciously sung by the great tenor that it created quite a sensation.

We now come to the third act, which, on account of the finale alone, is the best of the opera. There is a good duet of a religious character, and a sleeping song delightfully given by Madame Sherrington. We desire especially to refer to the finale, which is a masterpiece as regards the clever uniting of elaborate instrumentation and dramatic effect. This piece alone would suffice to stamp Mr. Wallace as a great musician, and cannot fail to enhance materially his reputation.

We shall be brief in dwelling upon the merits of the fourth and last act. It contains a very original and clever duet, between Miss Huddart and Mr. Santley, which was capitally given, and pleased amazingly. The music of the fifth, sixth, and seventh scenes of this act is in the highest degree dramatic, full of feeling and pathos, always natural and flowing, and everywhere showing the master-hand. A short finale, consisting of a rondo, in which Madame Sherrington executes a number of *tours de force*, brings the opera to an end.

We now take leave of Mr. Wallace and his work. If not an inspiration of genius, it is undoubtedly the production of a highly-accomplished musician, and we cannot do better than end our notice with Schiller's truly poetical words:—

"Wiederholen zwar, kann der Verstand, was da schon gewesen,  
Was die Natur gebaut, baut er während ihr nach;  
Ueber Natur hinaus, baut die Vernunft, doch nur in das Leere,  
Du, nur Genius, mehrst in die Natur, die Natur!"

#### PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

WITH the first concert of this society, which was held on Monday evening last at the Hanover-square rooms, the London musical season may be said to have begun. For some time past strange rumours had been afloat about a dilemma in which the directors were placed with regard to the organization of the orchestra; these rumours gradually assumed a more decided shape, until at last the fact became known that nearly the whole of the splendid Philharmonic band had seceded from the society. The reasons which could induce the directors to part with such faithful and tried servants must have been powerful indeed; whilst nothing short of necessity could have compelled the latter to throw up an engagement which is considered as "*la crème de la crème*" of all other engagements, the position being one of great pecuniary advantage and artistic distinction. We have, therefore, been at some pains to ascertain the cause of so unexpected and important an event, and we hope we shall not tax the patience of our readers if we lay before them a short *exposé* of the whole matter, thinking that it may prove of interest to those who devote some attention to musical matters, and be of benefit to the members of the musical profession.

The "Philharmonic Society" has now, for nearly half a century, occupied the first place amongst our musical institutions. What the concerts of the "Conservatoire" are in Paris, or those of the "Gewandhaus" in Leipzig, the concerts of the Philharmonic Society are to London. For a considerable period the post of conductor was shared by some of the most eminent musical men then residing in England, such as Sir Henry Bishop, Herr Moscheles, Cipriani Potter, Mr. Lucas, and others. But it was found impossible for the orchestra to arrive at any degree of perfection, if at each concert the *bâton* was to be intrusted to other hands; and in order to remedy this evil the directors determined, that for the future there should be only *one* conductor. The choice fell upon Mr. Costa, who, it seemed, combined all those acquirements which constitute a good *chef d'orchestre*. For many years he held this appointment with credit to himself, and to the satisfaction of the subscribers. But alas! "the course of true love never did run smooth." The directors and the conductor could not agree, which eventually led to the retirement of Mr. Costa. Herr Richard Wagner, who enjoyed a great continental reputation as a composer and conductor, was then brought over, to preside over the orchestra; but somehow he could not identify himself with the English taste, and he also resigned at the end of the season. The directors then offered the appointment to our distinguished countryman, Professor Sterndale Bennett, who now upholds the dignity of the Philharmonic Society, and is fairly in the way of restoring it to its old prestige.

But what, it will be asked, has all this to do with the present question? Simply this: it is the beginning of the end. Ever since the establishment of the society its concerts have taken place on the Monday night, a rule from which the directors have never departed. Now it so happened that Mr. Costa, at the time of his being conductor of these concerts, was also, as the bills stated, "Composer, Director of the Music, and Conductor" of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden. In the engagements therefore entered into by the orchestra with the then managers of this establishment, a stipulation was made, prohibiting the members from accepting engagements which would interfere with their duties at the opera, except the *Philharmonic Concerts*. The reason of this is obvious. Mr. Costa wanted his orchestra, and the managers wanted Mr. Costa. But, "*autres temps,*



autres mœurs!" when the connection with the Philharmonic Society had ceased, the consideration made in its behalf and that of the band ceased also. Mr. Gye, who had become sole lessee and director of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, now wished occasionally to have performances on a Monday night, at which he expected his orchestra to be present. For two or three seasons the gentlemen of the orchestra remonstrated, pointed out the injustice of the demand, and finally carried their point. This year, however, matters have come to a crisis. Might has conquered Right, and the gentlemen concerned have been politely informed that they now must choose between the Italian Opera and the Philharmonic Concerts.

Of two evils, they have chosen the least; and thus it has come to pass, that forty-seven members of the band have seceded from the Philharmonic Society. The ostensible cause of this secession is, we need hardly say, Mr. Gye. It was with him the engagements for the Opera were made; and the alterations in the terms of these engagements must, of course, have been made with his consent. That this alteration should have taken place soon after the disagreement between Mr. Costa and the Directors of the Philharmonic Society, is a coincidence which the latter gentleman must regret, as it cannot fail to lead to many invidious remarks. We shall content ourselves with venturing to express our opinion that a gross injustice has been done, not only to the members of the Orchestra, who have been cruelly deprived of an engagement which they held long before the Royal Italian Opera was ever thought of, and to obtain which it was the ambition and aim of every orchestral performer, but also to Professor Sterndale Bennett, who, it would appear, does not enjoy the friendship of Mr. Costa.

We now proceed to give an account of last Monday's concert, which was naturally, under the circumstances, looked forward to with more than the usual interest. Without wishing in the least to jump at hasty conclusions, we may safely state that the Directors have, to all appearances, succeeded in engaging a first-rate band, which for completeness leaves nothing to be desired.

In order to afford the subscribers the means of judging how many distinguished artists were included in its ranks, the directors, no doubt, hit upon the idea of introducing Hümmel's celebrated Septuor in D Minor, executed by the following gentlemen: Pianoforte, Mr. W. G. Cusins; Flute, M. Svensden; Oboe, M. Lavigne; Horn, Mr. C. Harper; Viola, Mr. R. Blagrove; Violoncello, Mr. Pettit; and Contro-basso, Mr. Rowland. Although we question the propriety of giving chamber-music (of which, by the bye, there is at the present time no lack) at concerts, exclusively devoted to orchestral performances, we cannot on this occasion blame the directors for having made an exception to the general rule, for the reason we have mentioned. The result fully showed that they were justified in carrying out the object they had in view, the septuor being listened to and received with the greatest favour by the audience. Mr. Cusins is a young and rising pianist. He played the pianoforte part in a musician-like manner. He has made decided progress since we last heard him, and we doubt not but that in time he will take his place amongst our best resident professors. What is wanting is a little more mellowness of touch, and a stricter regard to light and shade. But these are virtues which time and experience will, no doubt, bestow upon him. The other gentlemen who took part in the performance gave proofs of considerable talent. The first and second movement pleased us most. The third and fourth were open to criticism.

It was, however, in the symphonies of Mozart and Beethoven that the capabilities of the new orchestra were to be tested; and we are bound to confess that the severe ordeal was triumphantly passed. Mozart's delightful symphony in C, with which the concert opened, set all doubts at rest as to the quality of the new band, whilst in the symphony of Beethoven in A (No. 7), it was proved that the execution of this difficult and glorious work had been intrusted to fully competent hands. Every movement was given with the utmost precision, and every attention was paid to the pianos and pianissimos (the fortes usually standing a better chance), although in the latter (we mean the pp.) we cannot say perfection is yet arrived at. Professor Sterndale Bennett had evidently taken great pains in rehearsing this elaborate work, and the applause which followed each movement, coming from such a critical audience, was fully deserved.

The overtures were Spohr's "Alchymist," and Mendelssohn's in C Major (MS.). The first abounds with technical difficulties, especially for the stringed instruments; but the great composer, having also been a great violin player, probably judged all performers by himself, and thought nothing of it. We think, therefore, we are paying the orchestra a great compliment, when we say, that the overture was played to perfection. Mendelssohn's overture was one of the great features of the concert. It was written nearly thirty years ago for the Philharmonic Society, but has been very rarely heard. One could not help noticing in this splendid composition, with what reverence the modest youth adheres to the old masters, Haydn and Mozart, as if fearing to trust himself yet to his own wings. Now and then, it is true, the poetical mind and ingenious hand appear, which have immortalized so many of his later creations, reminding us of some phrases in the overtures "Die Meeresstille" and "Die Tingsalshöhle;" but we find him for ever clinging to the great models, an example which all young composers need not fear to follow. It is to be regretted, that a more prominent place was not assigned to it in the programme, a large portion of the audience having left the room as the overture was performed. They, of course, were the losers.

Miss Louisa Pyne and Miss Susan Pyne were the vocalists. The former is well known as an accomplished vocalist and sang the arias "Sombre Forêt," from "Guillaume Tell," and "Idole de ma Vie," from "Robert le Diable," with great brilliancy and taste. She was also well supported by her sister in Weber's charming duet "Come, be Gay," from "Der Freischütz." One word more and we have done. No one can deny that of late the Philharmonic Society has had some severe trials; it has stood firm amidst all the storms that have swept over its head, thereby showing a vitality which can only spring from a good cause; but now, if ever, it behoves the directors to leave nothing untried which can in any way promote the welfare of the society, and secure its permanent existence. None but the first talent should be engaged; no money or labour spared to obtain at all times the most perfect performances; no regard had to friendship or favouritism; and we feel convinced that the Philharmonic Society will not only hold its ground amongst the first musical institutions in London, but that it will continue to exercise that influence on art and its interpreters which it has maintained during so many eventful years.

**EARTH-OIL!**—A new product is in course of development in the state of New York, at a place called Union Mills, where has been discovered a tract of land which, at depths varying from a few feet to 500 feet from the surface, abounds in liquid matter, of which one-third is oil, capable of being used as one of the best illuminating agents; and also, when mixed with fish-oil, of being applied as a lubricant in various manufacturing processes. Already the product is found to extend over 100 square miles, and the oil is despatched to New York at the rate of 1,500 barrels per day.

## NECROLOGY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

### THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND.

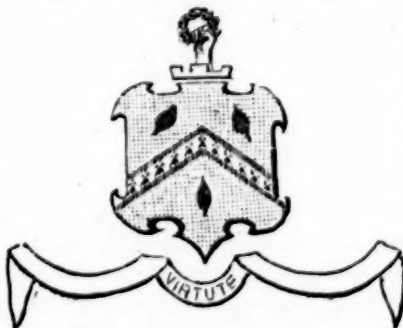
On Thursday, the 28th ult., at Trentham, Staffordshire, aged 74, after a long illness, his Grace the Duke of Sutherland, K.G.



The late Duke was the elder son of George Granville, 2nd Marquis of Stafford, by his marriage with Elizabeth (in her own right), Countess of Sutherland in the Scottish Peerage, and who was elevated, in January 1833, to the Dukedom of Sutherland, only a few short months before his decease. He was born in London, August 8th, 1786, and was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1806, and proceeded M.A. in 1810. He entered Parliament in 1808 (while bearing the courtesy title of Earl Gower) as M.P. for the now disfranchised borough of St. Mawes, Cornwall, and represented Newcastle-under-Lyme from 1812 to 1815, when he was chosen for Staffordshire, and he continued to represent that constituency down to the year 1826, when he was summoned to the Upper House in his father's Barony of Gower. He took, however, but very little active interest in the business of Parliament, though he voted steadily with the moderate section of the Liberal party. His large landed property and influence as the nominal owner of several "rotten boroughs," swept away by the Reform Bill of 1832, joined to his alliance with the possessor of, perhaps, the most ancient earldom in existence, pointed out the father of the late Duke as one of the noblemen who had the best claim to a "step" in the Peerage in 1833; and it is more than probable that his union with one of the most beautiful and accomplished daughters of the House of Howard, marked the late Duke himself as a fit recipient of the Blue Riband of the Garter, which he and his brother, the late Lord Ellesmere, enjoyed for some years at the same time. The family have also been additionally ennobled, during the last thirty years, by the elevation of the half-brother of the first Duke to the Earldom of Granville, and the bestowal of another Earl's coronet (viz., that of Ellesmere) on the brother of the Duke so recently deceased. The rise of the family of Gower, by successive marriages and adoptions, from a knightly Yorkshire family to their present high position, would be interesting to trace, if space allowed; it is enough to say, that they were not elevated to the honours of the Peerage until 1703, and that they were not advanced to an Earldom till 1746. The second Earl, who was created Marquis of Stafford in 1786, was the late Duke's grandfather. The late Duke, who was an Honorary D.C.L. of Oxford, Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire, and afterwards of Sutherlandshire, and High Steward of Stafford, and enjoyed the patronage of fifteen livings, married in 1823 the Lady Harriet Elizabeth, 3rd daughter of the late Earl of Carlisle, now Dowager Duchess, and Mistress of the Robes to Her Majesty. By her his Grace had issue four sons (three of whom survive) and four daughters (besides others who died young), viz., the Duchess of Argyll, the Marchioness of Kildare, the Lady Constance Grosvenor, and Lady Blantyre. The Duke's eldest son, George Granville William, Marquis of Stafford, M.P. for Sutherlandshire, now 3rd Duke of Sutherland, was born in 1828, and married in 1849 the only child and heir of the late John Hay-Mackenzie, Esq., of Newhall and Cromartie, N.B. (a cadet of the house of Tweeddale), by whom he has issue a youthful family. His eldest son having died in 1858, in his ninth year, the future heir to the title is his 2nd son, Cromarty, who was born in 1851. The late Duke's sisters are the Marchioness of Westminster and the Dowager Duchess of Norfolk.

### SIR G. COUPER, BART.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., at Frogmore, near Windsor, aged 72, Colonel Sir George Couper, Bart., C.B., K.H., Principal Equerry and Comptroller of the Household to H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent.



He was the son of Robert Couper, Esq., of Clary, co. Wigton, N.B., by a daughter of the Rev. E. Stott, of Winigaff, in the same county, and was born in 1788. Before the late baronet became connected with the Royal household, he had seen considerable active service in the army. He was assistant engineer at Copenhagen; as captain in the 92nd he served with General Sir John Moore's army in Sweden and in Portugal, and was Aide-de-Camp to Lord Dalhousie in Walcheren. He served as first Aide-de-Camp to General Sir Henry Clinton in the Peninsula in 1811 and 1812, and in a similar capacity to Lord Dalhousie from 1812 to the close of the war, and was present in all the actions in which they commanded divisions during those periods. The gallant colonel was Assistant-Quartermaster-General with the army in the Gulf of Mexico in 1814-15. He had obtained a silver war medal with four clasps for Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, and the Pyrenees. Sir George was secretary to General Sir James Kempt when Master-General of the Ordnance, and subsequently accompanied the late Earl of Durham to Canada, on that nobleman's appointment as Governor-General of that dependency of the British Crown. On the retirement of the late Sir John Conroy he was selected to fill the post of Principal Equerry and Comptroller of the Household to the Duchess of Kent. In 1831 he was made a Companion of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, and in 1838 nominated a Companion of the Order of the Bath. He was raised to the Baronetcy in 1811, and by his marriage, in 1822, with Elizabeth, 2nd daughter of the late Hon. Sir John Wilson, of the Howe, Westmoreland, he has surviving issue a daughter and four sons, of whom the eldest, now Sir George Ebenezer Wilson Couper, 2nd Baronet, was born in 1824, and married, in 1853, Caroline, grand-daughter of the late Sir Henry Every, Bart., of Egginton Hall, by whom he has issue.

### W. BROWNE, ESQ.

On Saturday, the 2nd inst., at Tallentire Hall, near Cockermonth, Cumberland, in his 81st year, William Browne, Esq. According to the "County Families," Mr. Browne was the only son of the late William Browne, Esq., of Tallentire Hall, by Mary Toft, widow of Richard Lancaster, Esq., of Papecastle, and was born in 1780. He was educated at the Charter House, and entered the army in 1799, but retired on succeeding to his father's estates in 1802. He was a magistrate for Cumberland, and served the office of High Sheriff of that county in



1816. In 1803 Mr. Browne married Catharine, youngest daughter of William Stewart, Esq., of Castle Stewart, co. Wigton, by whom he has issue a son and successor, William (now of Tallantire Hall), born in 1812, and married, in 1847, to Isabella, only daughter of R. Midford, Esq. The family represented by Mr. Browne of Tallantire were formerly seated at Woodall Udale, Cumberland, and our north country readers will remember that Tallantire formerly belonged to the Radcliffes, of the noble but unfortunate family of Derwentwater.

#### LIEUTENANT-GENERAL LESLIE, K.H.

On Tuesday, the 12th ult., at Brighton, aged 70, Lieutenant-General John Leslie, K.H., Colonel of the 35th Foot. He was a gentleman of Scottish extraction, and highly connected, being descended from a cadet branch of the house of Rothes. He entered the Army in 1806, was at the taking of Travancore in 1808, and at the capture of Bourbon and the Isle of France in 1810; after which he served in Java, and was present at the engagements of the 10th, 22nd, and 26th of August, 1811. He was also with the army of occupation in Paris, and saw some active service in the Pindarree war of 1817. He attained the rank of Lieutenant-General in 1858, and had held the Colonelcy of the 35th Regiment since 1857.

#### CAPTAIN WHITE.

On Friday, the 8th ult., Captain Henry White, of the 13th Light Dragoons, aged 29. He was the second son of Colonel Henry White, of Woodlands, co. Dublin (M.P. for Longford, and Lord Lieutenant of that county), by Ellen, daughter of William S. Dempster, Esq., of Skibo Castle, co. Sutherland. He was born in 1831; entered the army, in 1850, as Ensign in the 68th Foot. He attained the rank of Captain in December, 1854, and served with his regiment in the Crimea.

#### W. LEADER, ESQ.

On the 13th ult., at Rosnalee, co. Cork, William Leader, Esq. He was the second son of the late Nicholas Philpot Leader, Esq., of Dromagh Castle (sometime M.P. for co. Kilkenny), by Margaret, daughter and coheir of Andrew Nash, Esq., of Nashville, co. Cork, and consequently next brother to Nicholas P. Leader, Esq., of Dromagh, the newly-elected M.P. for co. Cork. He married Dorothea, younger daughter of The McGillicuddy, of the Reeks, Justice of the Peace and Deputy Lieutenant, by his first wife Margaret, only daughter of the late James Bennett, Esq.

#### K. NEAVE, ESQ.

On Wednesday, January 9th, accidentally killed while on a shooting expedition in India, aged 28, Kenelm Neave, Esq., of the Bombay army. He was the third, but second surviving, son of Sir Richard Digby Neave, Bart., of Dagenham Park, Essex, and of the late Hon. Lady Neave, daughter of James Everard, late Lord Arundell of Wardour. He was born in 1832.

#### H. P. BOUVERIE, ESQ.

On Monday, the 18th ult., aged 42, Henry Pleydell Bouverie, Esq. He was the third son of the late Hon. and Rev. Frederick Pleydell Bouverie (some time Canon of Salisbury, and Rector of Pewsey, Wilts, and of Whippingham, Isle of Wight), by Elizabeth, daughter of the late Sir Richard J. Sullivan, Bart. He was born in 1818, and married, in 1857, Sarah Mary, widow of William Hobart Seymour, Esq., but was left a widower in 1859. He was nephew of the present Earl of Radnor and of Philip Pleydell Bouverie, Esq., M.P. for Berks.

#### HONOURABLE MRS. AGAR.

On Sunday, the 3rd inst., at her son's residence, No. 1, Dean-street, Park-lane, at an advanced age, Anna Maria, widow of the Hon. Charles B. Agar. She was the only daughter and heir of Thomas Hunt, Esq., of Mollington Hall, Cheshire, and sole heir of her great uncle, Henry Robartes, 3rd Earl of Radnor (extinct). She married, in 1804, the Hon. Charles Bagenal Agar, barrister-at-law (who was the third son of the late James Agar, Esq., of Gowran Castle, co. Kilkenny, afterwards 1st Viscount Clifden, in the Peerage of Ireland); but was left a widow in 1811. By him the deceased lady had issue an only child, Thomas James Agar-Robartes, Esq., of Lanhyderock, Cornwall, M.P. for the eastern division of that county, who assumed, in 1826, the additional surname of Robartes, and married, in 1839, Juliana, daughter of the late Right Hon. Reginald Pole Carew.

#### LADY M. E. MONCK.

On Friday, the 1st inst., at Belsay Castle, near Hexham, Northumberland, aged 72, the Lady Mary Elizabeth Monk. Her ladyship was the fifth daughter of Charles, fourth, and late Earl of Tankerville, by Emma, youngest daughter and co-heir of Sir James Colebrooke, Bart.; she was born in March, 1788, and married, in 1831 (as his second wife), Sir Charles Miles Lambert Monck, Bart. (who exchanged his family surname of Middleton for that of Monck by royal licence in 1799), by whom, however, she had no issue.

#### MRS. LYNCH-BLOSSE.

On Tuesday, the 19th ult., at Leamington, Mrs. Lynch-Blosse. She was Louisa Eliza Grove, daughter of the late Henry Percy, Esq., and widow of the late Rev. Edward Hillingworth. She married, in 1858, Major Edward Lynch-Blosse, uncle of the present baronet of that name, by whom she has left issue one son.

#### MRS. NISBET.

On Monday, the 25th ult., at Southbroome House, near Devizes, Mrs. Nisbet. She was Elizabeth, only daughter of E. Greene, Esq., of Hinton Hall, co. Cambridge, and married, first, the Rev. H. C. Smith; and secondly, in 1846, Mr. Robert Parry Nisbet, of Southbroome House, Wilts, formerly a judge in India, who sat as M.P. for Chippenham from 1856 to 1859, and served the office of High Sheriff of Wiltshire in 1849.

#### MISS CUMMING.

On Saturday, the 23rd ult., at 5, Shandwick-place, Edinburgh, aged 75, Miss Sophia Cumming. She was the eighth and last surviving daughter of the late Lieut.-Colonel Sir Alexander Penrose Cumming Gordon, of Altyre and Gordonstoun, Bart. (sometime M.P. for the Inverness Burghs), by Helen, daughter of Sir Ludovic Grant, Bart., and was consequently sister of the late Sir William Gordon Cumming, Bart., and of Mr. Charles Lennox Cumming Bruce, of Dumphail, M.P. for the counties of Elgin and Nairne, and late Joint Secretary of the Board of Control, who is married to Mary, only daughter of Bruce, the celebrated Abyssinian traveller.

### WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

Miss Maria Powell, of Clapton, Middlesex, who died at her residence on the 21st of January last, has left personal property alone to the amount of £200,000. Her will bears date as far back as September, 1847, and there are three codicils, executed in 1854. The executors nominated are two of her nephews, David and Charles Powell, Esqrs., who have duly proved the will and codicils in the London Court of Probate, on the 25th of last month. This lady, who was well known in the locality in which she had for many years resided, was possessed of freehold and other estates, besides the personal property above stated. All this property she has bequeathed, with the exception of a variety of legacies, differing in amount, as well as annuities and charitable bequests, amongst the numerous branches of her family. Her estates at Newington and Hackney she has devised to her nephew, Nathaniel Powell. To her sister, Letitia, who resided with her, she has bequeathed all her right and interest in the freehold estate and residence in their own occupation, together with the furniture, &c., contained therein. All her funded property she has distributed amongst certain of her nephews and nieces, but excepting from any participation therein such of them as are otherwise amply provided for. The rest of her property, not specifically disposed of, she leaves to her sister, Letitia. To five of her godchildren the testatrix has given a legacy of £1,000 each. To Jeremiah Marlow's charity the testatrix leaves a legacy of £1,000. To the ministers of St. John's and St. James', Hackney, £100 for the poor of those parochial districts. There are legacies given to various charity and industrial schools, and to the Sons of the Clergy Orphan School, St. John's Wood. To the minister of St. John's, Hackney, the singular bequest of £30 is directed to be expended in the purchase of hassocks for the convenience and comfort of the poor when attending public worship in that church; and to the longest resident curate of St. John's a legacy is bestowed of £50.

General Sir George Scovell, G.C.B., late of Henley Park, Guildford, Surrey, died at his residence on the 17th of January last. His will is dated 15th of August last, to which are added two codicils made in the months of September and November following. The personal property was sworn under £70,000, and probate granted by the London Court, on the 27th of last month, to Charles Andrew Scovell, Esq., the testator's brother, and George Scovell, Esq., the nephew, a power being reserved to the Rev. Samuel Bradshaw, M.A., a nephew of his late wife, Lady Scovell. This gallant, veteran general officer, who has seen much hard military service, and encountered the dangers of "flood and field," and the imminent perils of the "deadly breach," has been providentially spared through them all to attain the patriarchal age of 87. The general died possessed both of realty as well as personal property, which he has bequeathed entirely amongst the members of his family, with the exception of some very liberal bequests to his servants, no less than ten of whom are named in his will, receiving legacies varying in amount, and reaching to separate sums of £300 to some of them. The general has bequeathed amongst his nephews and nieces his several badges of distinction, medals, star, crosses, and other mementoes, and has left them very handsome pecuniary legacies. To his niece, who acted as his secretary, he gives a legacy of £6,000 and his Peninsular gold medal. The journal which the general kept during the time he was engaged in active service in the Peninsula he has left to his brother Charles, to whom he has devised his real estates, and has appointed him residuary legatee. Sir George was created a K.C.B. for his services at Waterloo, and was made G.C.B. in 1854, in which year he attained the rank of General. He was Colonel of the 4th Light Dragoons, and was Governor of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, for nineteen years, but retired from that appointment in 1856.

Randle Wilbraham, Esq., of Rode Hall, Chester, died at his residence, on the 12th of January last, at an advanced age. His will is dated as far back as the 22nd of May, 1829, and was proved in the London Court of Probate, on the 2nd of this month, by his eldest son, Randle Wilbraham, Esq., of Rode Heath, Cheshire, one of the surviving executors. The personal property was sworn under £12,000. This gentleman, who is the brother of the late Lord Skelmersdale, whom he had appointed one of his executors, but who died prior to the testator, has left a handsome property, consisting of realty, and other estates, as well as the personalty above stated. The testamentary documents are exceedingly voluminous, being 169 folios, owing to a very bulky deed, dated the 6th of February, 1808, and made on the marriage of the testator with his wife, who survives him, to which reference is made in the will. The dispositions are entirely of a family nature. The relict being amply provided for under the deed of settlement, Mr. Wilbraham has bequeathed to her an immediate legacy of £1,000, together with the carriages and horses, and some other effects. To his eldest son the testator has devised his manors, messuages, lands, and real estate; also his plate, books, and furniture, and has appointed him residuary legatee. To each of his younger children he leaves a sum of £5,000, and should the personal estate not be sufficient for that purpose, the deficiency is directed to be made up from the assets of the real estate.

Lieutenant-General John Leslie, K.H., Colonel of Her Majesty's 35th regiment, was late of Buckingham-place, Brighton, where he died on the 12th of last month, having executed his will on the 19th of June last, which was proved in the principal registry in London, on the 1st of the present month. The executors nominated are his relict, Mrs. Ann Margaret Leslie; his brother-in-law, Lieutenant-Colonel Basil Jackson; his sons, George Leslie and Percy Leslie, Esqrs.; and his nephew, Matthias Christopher Hendley, Esq. The Colonel and Mr. George Leslie are the acting executors. This gallant general has disposed of his property, both real and personal, amongst his children, with the exception of two legacies of £100 to two of his executors; namely, his brother and his nephew, who are also appointed trustees in conjunction with the testator's son, George Leslie, and there is a legacy of £500 to his granddaughter, Isabella Leslie Tweedie. His widow, the general observes, is amply provided for by settlement. He directs all his property to be held in trust for his family. Lieutenant-General Leslie was in his 71st year at the period of his decease, and attained his present rank in October, 1858.

Theodosia Elizabeth Lady Back, wife of Rear-Admiral Sir George Back, F.R.S., D.C.L., of Gloucester-place, Portman-square, by virtue of an authority delegated to her, made her will in 1846, disposing of all her property over which she had a power of disposition, which will was administered to by her brother, William Frederick Gostling, Esq., the surviving executor. Her ladyship's effects were sworn under £25,000, and probate granted by the London Court on the 28th of last month. The will is of considerable length, and has four codicils. Her ladyship has bequeathed to her husband, Admiral Sir George Back, a life-interest in all she died possessed; this disposition her ladyship has confirmed by her last codicil, made in July, 1859, and which is entirely in her own handwriting; and upon the demise of Sir George, the whole of the property is to devolve, in



various proportions, to her brother, sisters, nephews, nieces, and other branches of her family described by her ladyship. Her husband, the Admiral, entered the naval service in 1808; he accompanied the lamented Sir John Franklin to the Arctic regions in 1818; and subsequently, in the years 1833 and 1836, he conducted the expedition to the North Pole, and for his valuable services upon these occasions Sir George received the honour of Knighthood.

Edward Alexander Samuells, Esq., C.B., who died at his residence, Bernard Villas, Norwood, Surrey, on the 23rd of December last, executed his will on the 24th of the month preceding, which was duly proved in the principal registry in London, on the 13th of last month, by his relict, Mrs. Ann Charlotte Samuells, and David Scott Moncrieff, Esq., writer to her Majesty's Signet, Edinburgh. The latter gentleman, together with David Begg, Esq., merchant, of Calcutta, are appointed the trustees; and Mrs. Samuells, D. S. Moncrieff, Esq., and William Luke, Esq., late of the Bengal Civil Service, are nominated guardians to his children. This gentleman has disposed of his estate, both real and personal, and all other property and effects, wheresoever situated and of every description, in favour of his relict, for her life, and has given her a power of disposition to bequeath the whole thereof, on her decease, amongst their children, in such proportions as she may think fit. The will is very brief, and confined simply to the above directions.

## Reviews of Books.

### TAXATION.\*

THIS is a useful book, affording a lucid elementary sketch of the principal facts connected with the present and past state of our taxation; it contains in a small compass a great deal of information, which it is absolutely necessary to have as it were at one's finger's ends, in order to form correct views concerning the present financial condition and the future financial prospects of our country. But the reader will be disappointed if he expects to find in it any valuable dissertations or any original views concerning the numerous difficult questions which are involved in a comprehensive study of taxation. Taxation is indeed a vast subject, alike interesting to the politician, the philosopher, and the ordinary every-day citizen. We pay taxes for the purpose of enabling the Government to do all that is done by us collectively as a nation, whether in reference to the administration of home affairs or in relation to foreign powers. In short, our taxes support our civil policy at home and our foreign policy abroad. Their total amount must therefore partly depend on the extent of the demands we make on the Government; for instance, on the question how far it should assist our schools, our charities, our churches, and those other institutions which partake of a public character. Thus the subject of taxation, in its widest aspect, necessarily involves the extremely difficult and much-contested question of the proper province and limits of Government interference. Moreover, the amount of our taxes is still more powerfully affected by our relation with other nations, or, to use an emphatic expression of Mr. Disraeli, meeting as it did with Mr. Bright's approval:—"finance is a question of policy," a fact unfortunately but too apparent when we remember that in our more recent budgets no less than *four-fifths* of our taxes are raised solely for the purpose of paying for our past wars and for our present national defences. Finally, the problem how best to raise a given amount by taxation requires the solution of some of the most arduous questions in political economy, such as for instance the famous questions of "loans or no loans," and of "direct or indirect taxation."

Mr. Leoni Levi does not often touch on any of these difficult and doubtful questions, and when he does occasionally advert to them, he quickly dismisses them with a few vague and commonplace observations, quite inadequate to the intricacy and importance of the subject, so that we are glad to find that he generally contents himself with giving a clear account of the amount of our taxation in past and present times, together with a concise history of the various taxes by which the public expenditure is defrayed. He begins by presenting to the reader some idea of the immense wealth of the country. It appears that the real and personal property in the United Kingdom was in the year 1841 twice as much, and in 1858 three times as much as it was in 1811, and that this rapidly increasing wealth amounted in 1858 to the enormous sum of six thousand millions of pounds. Moreover, if we compare the annual income of Great Britain with other countries, we find that it exceeds that of France by 20 per cent., and that of Russia, with her population of 36,000,000, by about 60 per cent. Nor must it be forgotten that in this estimate we entirely leave out of consideration those vast territories which give to Queen Victoria an empire over which the sun never sets, that we exclude the mighty resources of India, Canada, the West Indies, Australia, and North America. Such, then, being the immense wealth of this empire, and as in these days especially wealth is power, England must, undoubtedly, be considered the most powerful country in the world, a country whose resources are sufficient to enable her to outstrip all other nations in the peaceful competition of commercial enterprise, and successfully to contend with all other powers in any great struggle, so long, at least, as those resources are directed with wisdom and are wielded only for those just and righteous purposes, for which her moral strength and her physical power would work together in harmonious unison.

In tracing the progress of taxation during the first ages of the British monarchy, Mr. Leoni Levi omits two important considerations, without which the mere statement of the amount of taxes actually levied can afford scarcely any useful information. In the first place, it must be borne in mind that the feudal system, at least in its pristine vigour, was one vast military organization for the defence of the country and the maintenance of internal order. The services rendered by the tenants to their lords, and by these again to the King, effected, to a great extent, the very object and purposes of taxation; and, therefore, to form any clear conception of taxation in the middle ages, the feudal services must be considered as part and parcel of the taxation of the country.

In the second place, unless the value of the pound sterling be known, a given number of pounds is a mere name without any definite meaning; for money is both a symbol and an object of value, an instrument and a subject of exchange. Now, to discover clearly the exchange value of money in early times is one of the most difficult of problems; thus we find Macaulay representing the wealth and comfort of the English labourer to have been continuously progressing; while, on the other hand, Mr. Froude asserts the labourer of the sixteenth century to have been better off in all respects than the labourer of the present age. When we come, however, to more recent times, these difficulties almost completely vanish, and it may therefore be interesting and instructive to extract the following statistical results. Under the reign of George II. the revenue amounted to £3,500,000. Then came the disastrous American war and the dreadful struggle

with France, which so rapidly increased our taxation that in the first ten years of the nineteenth century the revenue was raised to the average amount of £48,000,000; and from 1810 to 1819 it reached the average of £63,000,000. From 1830 to 1839 it was lowered to £47,000,000, but not without giving rise to a deficit, which in the year 1842 had increased to the formidable sum of £12,000,000. Free trade, it is true, speedily imparted a marvellous impetus to our commerce and prosperity, but at the same time our expenditure has been rapidly increasing, and the revenue of the year ending 31st of December, 1859, actually reached the sum of £70,000,000.

If we analyse this public expenditure it will be found that nearly 50 per cent. is expended on the army, navy, and ordnance, and 30 per cent. is applied to the payment of the interest of the public debt, so that but a very small portion of it is devoted to the maintenance of our civil rule, to the administration of justice, to the promotion of education, and to the support of those public institutions which tend to raise the character and to ameliorate the condition of the people. Of the national debt, which gives rise to so large a part of our taxation, the main elements can be traced to three great wars. The continental war which began in 1756 saddled us with a debt of £60,000,000; the unfortunate contest with our American colonies increased the national debt by £121,000,000; and the French revolutionary war imposed on us the enormous additional burden of more than £500,000,000.

It is vain to hope that this debt will be extinguished within the next hundred years, and it is therefore important to understand its real effect. There are, comparatively speaking, few foreign holders of English stock, so that the interest which is paid on account of the public debt is paid to Englishmen, and is not abstracted from the national wealth. It follows, therefore, that the existence of the debt affects only the *distribution* of wealth, and does not in any *direct* manner cause its increase or decrease. But its great evil consists in this, that it is a *compulsory* transfer of wealth, thereby injuriously disturbing the national industry, and moreover that it is the working classes on whom it presses most heavily and most unjustly. In fact, political economy proves, with almost mathematical accuracy, that a government which borrows under the same circumstances as those under which our great loans were contracted, does actually take the whole amount within the year from the wages-fund of the country. Thus the whole weight of the loan is immediately thrown on the industrial classes exclusively; while these are, nevertheless, the very classes who are afterwards heavily taxed in order to pay the interest in perpetuity on the money, of the benefit of which they themselves have been deprived. We think that Mr. Leoni Levi has not laid sufficient stress on the impolicy—we may even say the iniquity—of almost all those Government loans which have left to us the national debt of 800 millions; and, in our opinion, Mr. Gladstone cannot be too much admired for having denounced this worst of financial expedients with all the force of his indignant eloquence.

The present taxation of the United Kingdom is raised in the following manner:—Of direct taxes, we have the income and property tax, the land and assessed taxes; of indirect taxes we have the customs, the excise, the stamps, and the post-office; the indirect taxes amounting to *more than five times* as much as the direct taxes. It is, however, not difficult to perceive, from the debates of last session, that a great effort will be made by the more advanced Liberals to increase direct and to diminish indirect taxation; but, on the other hand, it is equally clear that the latter mode of providing for the public expenditure will remain the favourite resource of all Chancellors of the Exchequer who are not endowed with the moral courage and speculative boldness of Mr. Gladstone, for (as Mr. Leoni Levi shows, with much force), the efficacy and conveniences of indirect taxation are very tempting to the financier:—

"To collect a small tax from all would prove a sheer impossibility. The machinery required would be quite out of proportion to the amount to be collected. To collect such taxes through the masters would be as difficult, and would be objectionable on political grounds. Indirect taxes are borne with greater resignation, just because they are unnoticed when paid. They are not so irritating as direct taxes. Merged in the weekly expenditure, they constitute no special burdens on any; and though the import duty may somewhat add to the price of the article, even beyond the duty itself, the consumer scarcely (?) perceives the centennial proportion by which the cost is thereby enhanced."

But though indirect taxation may be, in many respects, more convenient than direct taxation, we venture to assert that the proportion which the former bears to the latter in our present system, is far too great. And if Mr. Hubbard's motion results in an equitable modification of the Income Tax, then the efforts of the public press and of men of cultivated intellect will assist the endeavours of the poorer classes, whose complaints will become louder and louder, though less dangerous, the more a knowledge of political economy is diffused throughout the whole community.

We must not, however, allow ourselves to be led away by the interest of our subject, so as entirely to lose sight of our author. He has, in this book, which is very conveniently divided into short chapters, treated separately of each of the various taxes, giving at the same time a sketch of their history; and while he has taken care not to overcrowd his pages with details and figures, he has appended at the close of almost every chapter, the corresponding statistical results, in a neatly arranged tabular form. In short, the author appears to us, though his views are by no means very profound or original, to have the great merit of conveying, in a pleasing and impressive manner, much useful information on a most important subject. His concise chapter on Colonial expenditure is especially lucid and instructive; and as a fair specimen of his clear and forcible style, we will quote the opening paragraph of that chapter:—

"That Britain should be proud of her colonies we cannot wonder. Her possessions are not narrow islands like the Phœnician and Grecian colonies, nor barren wastes teeming with savage tribes. Like kingdoms and empires, they are rising, bold, and independent in the scale of nations. On the one hand are the regions where the Anglo-Saxons planted the seeds of labour and enterprise, whose wild forests and desert plains have been transformed into rich and bounteous fields. On the other, there is India, a wonderful country, which has for thousands of years been pouring in an uninterrupted stream of wealth upon Western Europe. The total area of these colonies can scarcely be stated with any approach to accuracy, the area of many of them being still unascertained. As far as is known, however, they appear to comprise 2,600,000 square miles west of Greenwich. North of the tropics there are 2,500,000 square miles; between the tropics, 2,100,000 square miles; and south of the tropics, 2,200,000 square miles. These colonies, exclusive of India, cost the country upwards of £1,000,000 per annum; but, except for the military and maritime stations, the plantations and settlements are fast emancipating themselves from the burden of deriving their support from the mother country. Their incomes are generally equal to their expenditure, and they are seldom driven to any extraordinary measure to supply their respective wants. Except in the case of British India, no army and navy expenditure, and no interest of debt, encumber their financial equilibrium, and their taxation is generally excessively light."

### THE ODES OF HORACE.\*

THE ingenuity of mankind is never exhibited in a manner more calculated to excite astonishment than when it is exercised in the discovery of some unnecessary difficulty which it voluntarily undertakes, and making for itself an arduous

\* On Taxation. By Leoni Levi, F.S.A., F.S.S. John W. Parker & Son, West Strand, London.

\* The Odes of Horace. Translated into English Verse, with a Life and Notes. By Theodore Martin. Second edition. London: Parker, Son, & Bourn, West Strand. 1861.



and self-imposed toil, never ceases in the task until it has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion. Ardour in the pursuit of science may induce individuals to ascend in balloons, or go down into the sea in diving-bells, or to wander amid fire-damps in mines, or to try experiments with detonating-powder; or a love for fame may urge them to volunteer on a forlorn hope; or philanthropy may induce them to rush into a cholera hospital, and mount the side of a ship that is desolated by the yellow-fever plague. All such acts are comprehensible, for the motive to self-sacrifice is of a higher, nobler, and more sublime character than the danger that is incurred, or the risk that is encountered; but for a poet—for one who feels that there is within him the divine spark of genius, to forego his claim to universal praise, and his indubitable title to immortality—to sacrifice what is the life of his life, by abstaining from original composition, and taking the secondary place and obscure position of a mere translator, is one of those acts that should elicit, not admiration, but astonishment. Such is the feeling which an examination of Mr. Martin's translation of "The Odes of Horace" is calculated to excite in the mind of every reader.

The poetical translation of any poet's composition in any language into any other language is a task of great difficulty. It is difficult even when the original poem is a modern composition; but that difficulty is increased a hundredfold when the original is a classical author; and in the case of Horace it may be said that the difficulty is increased a thousandfold; for, not only did Horace live before the Christian era, but he was beyond all others the poet of society—the poetized embodiment of the age in which he lived—the mirror reflecting its manners, peculiarities, modes of speech and thought, its wit, its wisdom, its folly, and, alas! it must be added, its harsh, loathsome, and numerous vices.

The most difficult, then, of all tasks, was self-imposed upon his own shoulders by Mr. Martin, when he resolved upon a translation of "The Odes of Horace;" and, it may also be added, that it was quite unnecessary and uncalled-for. The duty had been already sufficiently well executed by Francis, whose poetical version imparted a sufficiently clear and distinct notion of the original, accomplishing all that can fairly be expected from a translation; that is, a rhyming transcript of most of the ideas, and many of the words of the original. That the translation was inferior to the original was a fact not only universally admitted, but must be manifest even to the unlearned who compared the dry version of Francis with the magnificent lines of Cowley, Dryden, and others of the great poets who had translated portions of the poems of Horace.

All translations are exposed to a severe test. They are versions, in a new language, of a composition which has attained great popularity. The test, then, of a translation must be this: Is it executed in such a manner as to become popular amongst the community into whose language it has been translated? It is possible so to translate both ancient and modern authors as to win popularity: for instance, Pope's translation of "The Iliad," Dryden's of "Virgil," Moore's "Anacreon," and Coleridge's translation of some of the plays of "Schiller," are specimens of translations that will ever be popular in the English language. But then it may be objected to all of them, with the exception of Schiller, that none are close translations; that, as an accurate version of the Iliad, the mellifluous verses of Pope are inferior to the rugged, harsh, and uncouth blank verse of Cowper; but still we are to recollect that Horace himself, in his "Art of Poetry," has laid down a rule which should influence all translators in their labours:—

"Nec verbum verbo curabis reddere fidus  
Interpres: ne desilies imitator in arctum,  
Unde pedem proferre pudor vetet, aut operis lex."

Mr. Martin appears to have been fully conscious of all the perils that lay in his path, when he ventured upon a translation of "The Odes of Horace." He observes, with perfect truth: "The charm of all the best lyrical poetry is in a great degree dependent on subtle niceties of suggestion, or even of tone, which can never be thoroughly reflected in another language. But of 'The Odes of Horace' this is especially true. In many of them the expression is all in all."

This task, Mr. Martin admits, can "never be thoroughly" performed, and yet he voluntarily undertook it, and with powers to effect what could not be a failure—that is, writing original poetry of his own,—he engaged in a labour in which, according to his own notions, complete success was an impossibility! This is strange! It is marvellous: but with the expression of wonder at the attempt being made, we must not withhold our opinion of the merits of this new translation of "The Odes of Horace." Mr. Martin's main endeavour has been "to be as literal and close as the difference between the languages would admit." A fair specimen of his performance will be found in the eighteenth ode of the second book—a specimen that we purposely select, because we know not, in the whole works of Horace, any one piece which in a few lines gives so clear a notion of the poet and the man, of the sweetness of his verses, of his philosophy, his content with his own condition, of his contempt for gripping worldliness, and his honest sympathy with the sufferings of the innocent, oppressed, and unprotected poor. Mr. Martin, it will be seen, in his translation has wisely avoided an imitation of the metre of the original, composed in what was designated "the Hipponactean measure,"—the first line being "a Trochaic dimeter catalectic," and the second, an "Iambic trimeter catalectic." We subjoin the first strophe of the original, with Mr. Martin's translation of the entire ode, which is addressed to "A MISER":—

"Non ebur neque aureum  
Mea renidet in domo lacunar,  
Non trabes Hymettiae  
Premunt columnas ultima recisas

"Within my dwelling you behold  
Nor ivory, nor roof of gold;  
There no Hymettian rafters weigh  
On columns from far Africa;  
Nor Attalus' imperial chair  
Have I usurped, a spurious heir,  
Nor client dames of high degree  
Lacanian purples spin for me;  
But a true heart and genial vein  
Of wit are mine, and great men deign  
To court my company, though poor.  
For nought beyond do I implore  
The gods, nor crave my potent friend  
A larger bounty to extend,  
With what he gave completely blest,  
My happy little Sabine nest.

"Day trends down day, and sinks amain,  
And new moons only wax to wane;  
Yet you, upon death's very brink,  
Of piling marbles only think,  
That yet are in the quarry's womb,  
And all unmindful of the tomb,  
Rear gorgeous mansions everywhere;  
Nay, as though earth too bounded were,  
With bulwarks huge thrust back the sea,  
That chafes and breaks on Baise.

"Africa, neque Attali  
Ignotus haeres regiam occupavi,  
Nec Laconicas mihi  
Trahunt honestae purpuras clientae."

"What though you move the ancient  
bound  
That marks your humble neighbour's  
ground,  
And avariciously oerleap  
The limits right should bid you keep?  
Where lies your gain, that driven from  
home  
Both wife and husband forth must roam,  
Bearing their household gods close  
press'd  
With squalid babes upon their breast?  
Still for the man of wealth, 'mid all  
His pomp and pride of place, the hall  
Of sure-devouring Orcus waits  
With its inevitable gates.

"Then why this ceaseless vain unrest?  
Earth opens her impartial breast  
To prince and beggar both; nor might  
Gold e'er tempt Hell's grim satellite  
To waft astute Prometheus o'er  
From yonder ghastly Stygian shore.  
Proud Tantalus and all his race  
He curbs within that rueful place;  
The toilworn wretch, who cries for ease,  
Invoked or not, he hears and frees."

Such is a specimen of Mr. Martin's translation of "The Odes of Horace." Those who comprehend the original will at once perceive how closely, though not

slavishly, he adheres to his text; and will be happy, through such a work as this, to renew their acquaintance with the writings of one who, next to Virgil, was not only considered, but studied in the schools, as the master-poet of Pagan Rome:—

"Cum totus decolor esset  
Flaccus, et hareret nigro fuligo Maroni."

Mr. Martin has succeeded so completely in what was a task of great difficulty, that it is to be wished he would complete what he has so well begun, and give to the world a poetical version of the Satires, Epistles, and Art of Poetry, so that neither the learned nor unlearned should any longer have to seek for what "a translation ought to be," of the whole works of Horace.

We have but one regret to express with respect to this edition of "The Odes of Horace." It is that "the notes," which are very valuable and interesting, are pushed to the back of the book, instead of appearing in the same page they are intended to illustrate. The volume, we are aware, would not, by this arrangement, look so attractive; but then whatever its defect in the eye of a printer, it would be more than counterbalanced by the pleasure and instruction afforded to the reader.

#### ADVENTURES IN COCHIN CHINA.\*

It is refreshing in these days of high pressure literature, when the art of book-making is every day attaining a higher pitch of perfection, and the art of book-writing is as rapidly disappearing, to meet with a work of unpretending but genuine merit. We are getting so accustomed to fraudulent trade marks in literature, that we no more expect to find the contents of a book correspond with its title now-a-days than we should look for 300 yards of cotton upon a reel because it happens to be so stamped. Every railway station in the kingdom has become a receptacle into which gaudily bound literary rubbish may be shot, and artists skilled in its manufacture ply the pen unceasingly to meet the ever-increasing demand. No matter what may be the exciting topic of the day, there is always a gentleman in Grub-street ready to write upon it. We have "Recollections of Garibaldi," by a lady who never knew him; "Adventures in Japan," by a traveller who never went there. We are fast losing the simplicity of art in literature as we have already lost it in painting, and rarely come across a book which has been written because the writer has something really interesting to tell us.

We looked with suspicion on "Adventures in Cochin China," believing it not improbable that some cockney scribbler having read up the subject in an encyclopædia was going to supply us with a thrilling narrative of his experiences in that country, assisted in his imagination by the very truthful and interesting account lately given us by Mr. Gouger of his imprisonment in Burmah, a work which is an honourable exception to the style of literature we have been describing. We no sooner, however, opened Mr. Brown's modest volume than we found we had done him an injustice, and that the straightforward story of the honest sailor possessed a charm which we may seek in vain in the highly-spiced productions of the skilled litterateur. Mr. Brown opens his story by telling us that "it fell to his lot, along with many other British seamen, to be 'hard up' on the beach at Hongkong, in October, 1856."

The "Arrow Case" had, in fact, reduced Mr. Brown to the necessity of applying to be admitted as a member of the Hongkong police force, an alternative which he preferred to joining one of Her Majesty's ships and the chance, as he naively informs us, of the lash. Finding that keeping guard over the premises of Messrs. Jardine & Matheson, at 18 dollars a month, was rather stupid work, Mr. Brown afterwards agrees with a Chinese merchant to take command of a lorcha, manned entirely by a Chinese crew, and armed with ten nine-pound guns. Caught in a violent gale off Hongkong, our adventurer only narrowly escapes shipwreck to fall in with a pirate fleet off the coast of Cochin China. A bloody engagement, which is described in graphic but not exaggerated terms, results in the capture of the lorcha, and the enlistment of our friend Brown by the pirate chief, Ching A'hling, into his service to teach his men drill. Brown complies with qualms of conscience which are only stifled by the necessities of his position, and takes command of one of the junks. The entire fleet consisted of eight vessels, six of which were prizes captured within five months. The rest of the lorcha's crew, being Canton men, were distributed throughout the fleet. We are favoured with a very minute description of the interior economy of the pirate chief's establishment, of the manners and customs of the lawless crew with whom our author now finds himself associated, and the history of whose adventurous experiences is a fair illustration of the lives of thousands of reckless spirits who infest the coast of China.

The pirate fleet commence cruising off Cape Verela. Brown drills his men daily, and leads a comfortable enough life, until they encounter a large well-armed junk, which offers a sturdy resistance. Upon this occasion our author finds himself in the thick of it; twenty-one of his junk's crew are lying dead or wounded round him when the order is given to board.

"Our men jumped on board with their knives and spears, and with a frightful yell commenced their work of butchery. As I stood at the stern of our tymung I heard the screams and pitiful cries of their victims, who now made little or no opposition to them. I felt a horror at being compelled to aid such a savage race of beings; but I had only one other choice, which, as I have said before, was to meet certain death. A man will do almost anything for his life, especially if he has the slightest hope of the future. My conscience told me that I was doing wrong to assist these murderers any more than I was actually compelled to, and that by continuing to drill and instruct them in a more improved manner of using their guns, and to station them on board their vessel so that they could in a more effectual manner destroy human life and defend themselves in case of need, I was materially assisting them. I therefore resolved to discontinue it altogether."

It is only fair to Mr. Brown to state his dilemma; the scene which meets his eyes as he boards the captured junk confirms his resolution of escaping at all risks on the first opportunity.

"There were more than fifty bodies lying mangled on the deck, some without heads, some without arms or legs, others run through and weltering in their gore; in fact, the picture is too dreadful to describe."

Shortly after, the fleet returns to a secluded bay on the coast of Cochin China, and Brown jumps overboard, receiving a shot in the thigh as he is swimming ashore. He is saved from drowning, and rescued by the natives, amongst whom he conceals himself until the official report is made to the Government, who, on hearing that he is not French, but English, order him to be well treated, but kept under surveillance.

His residence in Cochin China extends over more than a year, during which time he is the victim of official routine, and is kept waiting in various towns and under a variety of mandarins for his order of release. His treatment depended upon the character of the men who had him in charge, and the information he derived is limited, partly from the difficulties thrown in the way of his attaining it, and partly from his slender knowledge of the language. We are struck all through his singular narrative with its truthful character. There is no attempt at fine writing: we have the simple record of his experiences as a quasi prisoner amongst

\* Adventures in Cochin China. By Edward Brown. Westerton.



a semi-barbarous and little known race. In the course of those experiences, during which Mr. Brown was conveyed from one large town in the interior to another, and finally to Saigon and Campoot, he traversed more than 500 miles of unknown country on foot, his appearance creating the greatest excitement and astonishment among natives who had never seen a European before; and it is pleasant to learn from his narrative that he met with universal kindness and sympathy from the country people wherever they had not been contaminated by contact with Europeans. "Wherever," says our author, "Europeans, and especially Roman Catholic priests had been, strange to say I always found a marked difference for the worse in the behaviour of the people, who at those places showed hatred of all whites." For Mr. Brown's opinions as to the character and capabilities of this country generally, which has recently been brought more prominently to the notice of the public by the French acquisition upon its shores, we must refer the reader to the work itself.

Our author gives us a condensed account of the *casus belli* of our allies, and scarcely a year elapsed after his departure from Saigon before it was taken by the French, in whose possession a few forts in the neighbourhood of the city still are. They form, however, only the basis of future operations, and General Montauban is doubtless, ere this, far advanced with his preparations for a campaign in Cochin China by the next cold weather. We differ from our author in regarding the progress of the French arms in this quarter with any feeling of alarm. So long as our fleets in the China and Eastern seas preponderate in a ratio of ten ships to one over the French, we have no reason to dread a war which would enable us to appropriate the barracks and other accommodation they may have prepared. Most of our colonies have been originally settled by other powers, and there is a considerable convenience in having all the heavy work attendant upon early settlement in barbarous or unhealthy countries done by one's enemies.

For the rest, Cochin China is, according to Mr. Brown, a country with considerable resources, and any development of them will tend to the progress of civilization and of commerce generally. The only real sufferers will be the 101st and 102nd regiments of the French army, who, we were informed, in a recent communication from China, were never to return home, but, to use a happy French expression, were to be "expended" upon the feverish coasts of Cochin China and Madagascar.

#### THE TWO COSMOS.\*

"The Two Cosmos" are two stories of two cousins who are Scotchmen, and who, after a variety of fortunes, and with a far different fate before and career behind them, have their final meeting in the Fleet Prison of London.

The author introduces his tale with a discussion between a lady and gentleman upon the subject of novel writing, and fault is found with the writers of modern novels upon various grounds:—first, that there is a great deal of nonsense in such works; next, that the personages introduced talk in a "studied, unnatural, and ridiculous jargon;" then that an invariable condition of all novels is that they must have "a regular hero and heroine, who love, are unfortunate, and marry, or die." Another objection made is to "the dramatic unity of novels, as if life were a tale that accommodated itself to a set of laws made by men of a peculiar way of thinking," and this objection is enforced by the observation that "no man ever lived according to the rules of dramatic composition." It is then suggested that a novel, based upon actual facts, would or ought to be successful, because "there are many *lives* without either hero or heroism, hair-breadth 'scapes, or harrowing interests, that might be told with great effect to an open-eared public."

It is then to be presumed, that "The Two Cosmos" is a tale founded on fact, that the persons introduced will not talk nonsense, that nothing is told respecting them which might not have occurred any day in the year to any common-place individual, and that a novel can be interesting which violates all the rules of dramatic composition. Before an inquiry is made as to the merits or demerits of the specimen which the author has given of his own powers to compose a tale calculated to attract the attention of the public, it is but proper to examine into the validity of the laws which he seeks to establish for the guidance of future writers.

The novelist is the creator of a certain class of books, the two main purposes of which should be innocent amusement, and, wherever possible, the instruction and improvement of the reader. The novel should be the representation of human life and actual manners, whether of to-day, the past century, or three, four, six, or ten centuries ago. The novelist is free to choose his epoch and his characters; but his invention is restricted within certain limits. Whatever be the epoch, the characters, the manners, and, in some slight degree, the language, must be consistent with the age depicted. His work must show that it has a *purpose*, and therefore he is bound not to introduce anything which does not bear, either directly or indirectly, upon that which is, or ought to be, the main end for which it was composed. Although "a man" does not, as it is truly observed by the author, "live according to the dramatic rules of composition," still it is to be remembered that the author, in creating a book, assumes to himself, upon paper, the functions in a minor degree of a Providence; and it becomes, therefore, incumbent upon him to show how "a man's" own conduct bears upon his final destiny in this life—for that is all that mortals can venture to touch upon in a work of fiction. A great distinction between real life, and life as it is depicted in novels, consists in the fact that in real life everything—the smallest as well as the greatest—is under the direct control of an omniscient Deity; whereas, in the fictitious life formed by the fancy of the novelist, everything must be regulated by the limited judgment of a weak mortal. There is in real life no such thing that can be truly designated "an accident;" there are no superfluous incidents, there are no avoidable casualties, or crimes, or evils, or afflictions, or visitations.

All these matters which we hourly witness, but cannot comprehend, and the causes for which are beyond our ken, and the ends for which they come are outside the reach of our apprehension; all these have "a purpose," that we never shall fully know, until that hour when mortality shall be changed into immortality. At present we see but darkly; but then we shall distinguish plainly. In the hour of the Great Retribution will be manifested the justification for what appears so inconsistent to us at this moment—the temporary sufferings of the good—the temporary triumphs of prosperity and riches of the vile, the base, and the wicked. The novelist acts in accordance with what is the universal Christian faith when he constructs his plot, and in its progress displays the beauty of virtue and the hideousness of vice, and rewards the one with the greatest of all earthly bliss—a happy marriage; and punishes his villains with the fitting consequences of their own crimes. In carrying out this design, the clever novelist makes every incident he introduces of use—as auxiliary to the climax—all tending to—as in the moral and immortal world to come hereafter—every thing really concurs to the grand and final *denouement*.

\* The Two Cosmos: a Tale of Fifty Years Ago. In six books. Two volumes. Edinburgh: Edmonston & Douglas. 1861.

This world neither begins nor ends with the life of any individual; it rolls on serenely in its course, with its ever-varying change of seasons, no matter whether its surface be swept by the ravages of war or the desolating breath of pestilence. No man sees with mortal eyes the commencement or the termination of its career. Within his short span of existence, and his narrow space of horizon, a thousand things present themselves to his view, which either have no relation to himself, or that bear upon others of far more consequence in the design of the Universal Creator. He can construct nothing like to that great work of an Omnipotent Hand. All he may venture to attempt, with any hope of success, is something like to himself—finite and transitory—within narrow limits—at the utmost something which, as being human, may command the sympathy of his fellow-creatures. If he goes beyond that as some writers have been tempted to do, by the mediæval legend of "The Wandering Jew"—describing in the same work several generations—then, instead of being exalted by the sublimity of the theme, the chances are that he fails miserably, and his grand romance ends in the author being laughed at, and his characters turned into ridicule.

We cannot now stop to trace works of fiction in their present form to what may be regarded as their original amongst the corrupt Romans and debased Byzantine Greeks, or in their form as an Indian tale, or German legend, or French romance, with all the prose offspring of Italian wit and Spanish gravity, and so follow them down to the last century in England, when Fielding's pen moulded (with the exception of some gross passages) the modern novel, in its most perfect form, in "Tom Jones." We have not here the opportunity for doing so. We have, in fact, scarcely space left to remark upon "the two Cosmos" themselves, whose author, finding fault with novels that have one hero and heroine, supplies his readers with two heroes and two heroines, and at the same time affords an illustration of the injury that is done to a work by introducing incidents that have no connection with the *denouement*. Thus the two Cosmos are presented to the reader as coming into personal contact with a person who has fled, after committing a murder. The incident is very well told—but it has no connection with the tale.

The first volume ends with the happy marriage of one of the heroes, and restoration to his father's property, of which he had been unjustly deprived; but it is not until late in the second volume the reader is informed that the same hero had been the associate of "blacklegs," and joined in their nefarious conspiracies for the spoliation of the unwary. The first volume will be read with interest, because the author describes scenes and characters in Scotland, with which he appears to be well acquainted; but he fails in his description of London, where he introduces his second hero as seeking his fortune, and on the point of dying of starvation, although a first-rate violinist, and, as a young man of the world, not ignorant that he was master of an accomplishment certain to procure for its possessor an adequate livelihood. Probability is outraged in the description of the character of the peer, of the pawnbroker—the personal friend of the nobleman; of the commander of the garrison in Ireland (who is all through the book designated as "His Excellency," a title given to no one in Ireland but the Lord Lieutenant); in the abduction of the second heroine; in the manner in which she was first discovered by the hero; and, what we suppose will surprise our author to be told, he has fallen into the very fault he finds with other novel writers, that is, an anachronism, where he describes his hero discharging tavern-bills, and aiding a person in distress (Vol. ii., pp. 203, 279), by bestowing, as if it was a lawful tender of money, "a one-pound note," when (according to actual chronology) "one-pound notes" were no longer circulated in England.

With all its defects—in character, in construction, in superfluous incidents, and improbable occurrences—"The Two Cosmos" will be read with interest, because in many passages it is very well written, and a large portion of it seems to be founded in fact. One truth it serves to illustrate, that great mischief can be entailed upon families by the existing marriage law of Scotland.

#### THE BENTLEY BALLADS.\*

WHEN a first class periodical has reached that goodly number of volumes which a middle-aged gentleman is almost afraid to count; when they stand in their long array, half-bound and lettered, on the shelves of a library; and when a tome is taken down, some rainy afternoon, to refresh some stray memory or recall some snatch of song, there is one reflection that must have struck every reader. It is, that the periodical form of publication, if it gives a writer a monthly stage for the display of his powers, has, like the other stage, a trap-door, through which he descends to comparative oblivion. The cover of the shrine closes upon its gems, and the casket is put away in its niche. The number thereof increases year by year, and as every coming month gives the public a fresh set, the old jewels are rarely inquired after. In fact, the general fate of the contributors to periodical literature is that of the babes in the wood—they are buried under leaves. But, in justice to the publishers and fortunate proprietors of these serials, they are not the cruel uncles of the story. They do not willingly let their authors die if the last have any vital power of their own, still less willing are the writers themselves to suffer extinction. So publishers and writers again combine, and between them the thirty or fifty volumes are made to give up the materials of a capital volume like this of the "Bentley Ballads."

We have read it with great pleasure, renewing old acquaintances, whose wit and humour we had not forgotten, but whose place of abode we could not have named, had we been challenged to do it. And he must have been a regular and "constant reader" indeed, who does not find much in the collection that is entirely new to him. None, save that "Subscriber from the beginning," on whom rests the publisher's benediction, can go through the book and find all familiar. The work is in every way a credit to modern literature. The richness and variety of the talent—and more than talent—that give such influence to our periodicals, can only be justly estimated when its best productions are thus brought together. We will not assert that the shelves of the library are quite like the "dark, unfathomed caves of ocean;" but it is certain that "many a gem of purest ray serene" lurks in the twilight recesses, and there "suffers not thinking on," or is not prized to its worth.

And we are glad to note that the public has appreciated the enterprise of Mr. Bentley, who had an eye and memory for his pearls, that has brought such a cluster of them again to the surface. The demand for the "Bentley Ballads" has required the issue of a new edition, that has been considerably enlarged. The first edition was selected only from six volumes of the popular *Miscellany*, those from 1837 to 1840; the present includes all the best songs and ballads contributed to the celebrated magazine during no less than eighteen years, namely, from 1837 to 1855. And in that period Bentley had in his constellation of writers, Dr. Maginn, Father Prout, S. Lover, Ingoldsby, Longfellow, Augustine Wade, Peacock, Kenealy, Talfourd, Albert Smith, and many more of what

\* The Bentley Ballads; containing the choice Ballads, Songs, and Poems contributed to Bentley's *Miscellany*. London: Richard Bentley, New Burlington-street. 1861.



the old dramatists called "imps of fame." Need anything be said of their quality; and is it not to be bidden to a royal banquet to be offered nearly five hundred pages of such contributions, abounding, as they do, in wit, pathos, learning, and humour? It is one of the best books of the season.

#### THE MAGAZINES.

In the *Art Journal* there are three fine engravings, "The Armourer," by J. Godfrey, from the picture by H. Leys, in the Royal Collection at Windsor Castle; "Modern Italy," by W. Miller, from the picture by Turner, in the possession of H. A. J. Munro, Esq.; and "Cupid Captured by Venus," by G. Stodart, from the group of sculpture by G. Fontana. Amongst the illustrated contributions are "The British Artists," by James Daffern; "The Hudson from the Wilderness to the Sea," by Benson J. Lossing; "Rambles of an Archaeologist," by F. W. Fairholt; and "An examination into the antiquity of the likeness of our Lord," by Thomas Heaphy. There are in addition to these several very interesting papers, such as "Old England," by Thomas Purnell; "Artists and their Models," by Walter Thornbury; and "Notes on the most recent productions of Florentine Sculptors," by Theodosia Trollope. *The Geologist*, a very valuable and interesting periodical, edited by S. J. Mackie, F.G.S., F.S.A., contains two papers calculated to attract public attention:—"The Geology of Cleveland," by Mr. Charles Pratt, and "The Distribution of Cephalaspis and Pteraspis in England," by Mr. G. E. Roberts.—*Macmillan* continues its well-written contribution, "Tom Brown at Oxford," by the author of "Tom Brown's School-days," and the Rev. F. D. Maurice bestows a generous notice on the career and labours of the celebrated Baron Bunsen.—*Blackwood* is absolutely warlike this month. It contains eight articles, and three of these are devoted to belligerent topics: "Iron-clad Ships of War, and Our Defences," "Wilson's German Campaign of 1813," and "The China War of 1860." We recommend to persons of all creeds and classes a perusal of the first article in *Colburn*, entitled "The Mormons and the Country they dwell in." The information it communicates is alike sad and strange; and its great power consists in its complete accuracy of statement.—*The Dublin University*, like its Tory contemporary in Scotland, *Blackwood*, bristles like a ship of war with articles devoted to military purposes. It has an essay on the "Command of the Channel," a contribution in reference to a "Naval Warfare between France and England," a discussion upon the merits and achievements of the old fighting partisan, "Scanderbeg," and a sonnet in honour of "British Volunteers."—There are two very well-written articles in the *National*, "A Parliamentary Sketch," by J. Ewing Ritchie, of the Attorney-General, Sir Richard Bethell; and "The Silent Witness," by Sylvanus Cobb, jun.—*Fraser* is particularly good this month. It has first-class articles on "Astronomy," "Dante and his Works," "Another Chapter on the Amoor," an elaborate review on "Mrs. Piozzi," with the capital tale of "Good for Nothing," continued from former numbers.—*Good Words* is a sixpenny monthly magazine, and a very extraordinary publication in every respect. It has at its command the services of the best writers. In the present month's number there are contributions by Archbishop Whately, the Rev. Thomas Guthrie, D.D.; by the Editor, the Rev. Norman Macleod, D.D.; by John Hollingshead, the Rev. Thomas Smith, M.A., &c. &c.—*The Ladies' Treasury* (edited by Mrs. Warren), is a lady's magazine, profusely illustrated.—*The Welcome Guest* would be still more "welcome" if it dispensed with all contributions from foreigners, and relied solely upon the native talent at its command. We cannot refer to this truly amusing and agreeable periodical, without stating that we have been honoured by a letter from Mr. Lascelles Wrexall, in which he assures us that "he has not resigned the connection that has existed between him and the *Welcome Guest* during the last twelve months."

#### MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

*Elsie Venner*, a Romance of Destiny. By Oliver Wendell Holmes, author of "The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," &c. Cambridge: Macmillan & Co.; and 23, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, London.—This is an American tale, by an American author. It was originally published in the *Atlantic Monthly*, under the name of "The Professor's Story," the first number having appeared in the third week of December, 1859. In that form the tale attracted so much admiration, that the author has, in compliance with a request from the publishers, forwarded to them early sheets for publication in this country. Had the book now appeared for the first time, and its merits were utterly unknown, we should have conceived it a duty to enter into an analysis of the contents, and show that it is eminently entitled to popularity. There are some characters introduced, that are drawn with a master-hand, and not a few of its incidents are of a thrilling nature. "Elsie Venner" is deserving of a wide-spread circulation; more, however, we are bound to say, for the manner in which it is written, than for the philosophy it inculcates. The author is far in advance of the age in his notions as to "moral responsibilities." He is for judging criminals not so much by their "actions," as their "antecedents," and he is—as in this tale—not merely for acquitting them in many instances, but would absolutely make "an interesting heroine" of a wilful, cold-blooded poisoner, because her mother, before she was born, had been bitten by a rattlesnake! We more than doubt "the morality" of such teaching. Man can judge of actions—the motives he can only infer from what he sees; whilst to a higher power than man is reserved the final judgment, determining the limits of responsibility and accountability of a being whose soul is stained with the crime of "murder." There was more sound sense and more true Christian toleration than is to be found in "our professor," in the old Pagan who, when denouncing what he considered as the absurdities, superstitions, follies, laziness, and even want of charity in the Jews, yet suggested an excuse for them in the fact, "they were only imitating the bad example given to them by their forefathers." *Sed pater in causa*. What most readers seek in a tale, is not philosophy, but something very different—strongly-drawn characters, striking incidents, and well-written descriptions; and all these are abundantly supplied by the author of "Elsie Venner."

*Familiar Illustrations of Scottish Character*. By the Rev. Charles Rogers, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot. London: Houlston & Wright, 65, Paternoster-row; Edinburgh: John Menzies.—This book will probably take its place by the side of "The Reminiscences of Dr. Carlyle" and the popular work of the Dean of Edinburgh. In its publication the author has had two objects in view—the first, vividly to depict character and sentiment, as these have been manifested in the various phases and conditions of Scottish life during the course of the last sixty years in particular; the second purpose aimed at has been by presenting a budget of healthful anecdotes to supersede many current stories of an exceptionable description, and to show that abundance of wit may be procured, without having recourse to humour tinged with profanity.

*Sweethearts and Wives*. By Marguerite A. Power. In Three Volumes. London: Saunders, Otley, & Co., Conduit-street.—A very interesting novel, with a moral attached to it, showing the misfortune, that may befall a woman possessed of great attractions and some virtues, who, from her earliest years, has been under the tutorship of a bad father and hard-hearted mother. The descent of such a creature from the path of morality into a career of crime is effectively drawn; whilst the other characters in the work enlist the sympathies of the reader from the commencement to the close. "Sweethearts and Wives" will, we are certain, be a favourite in all circulating libraries.

*Orley Farm*. By Anthony Trollope. With Illustrations, by J. E. Millais. London: Chapman & Hall, Piccadilly.—This is the first of a new serial, by a popular author. The characters introduced are a clever widow; a proud old baronet; his grandson, attached to the undignified sport of ratcatching; a young conceited youth, the son of the widow, who is about commencing the perilous career of an experimentalist and "gentleman farmer;" with a roguish and malignant attorney who has been dispossessed of a few acres of land. The scene is laid, the characters are placed on the stage, but a development of the plot is reserved for future numbers.

*Gryll Grange*. By the author of "Headlong Hall." London: Parker, Son, & Bourn, West Strand.—The popularity of "Gryll Grange" is well established. Admired in the pages of the magazine in which it originally appeared, its republication in a single volume has been considered desirable.

*Journal of what passed in the Temple Prison during the Captivity of Louis XVI., King of France, 1792-3*. By Monsieur Clery, the king's valet. Translated from the original edition, and prefaced by James Bromfield, author of "Brittany and the Bible," "The Chase in Brittany." London: James Blackwood, Paternoster-row.—The translator of the journal of the faithful Clery has performed an honourable and a useful task. Clery's journal is an important historical document, giving a faithful narrative of the sufferings endured by the royal family of France at the hands of the base wretches who covered over every crime they perpetrated with the false name of "liberty." The deeds and the names of such villains should be preserved for everlasting infamy. Mr. Bromfield's pamphlet is entitled to popularity; and we would wish to see a copy of it in every library in the British empire.

*Tales from Blackwood*, Vol. XII. William Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh and London.—In this volume are contained the following papers:—1. Tickler among the Thieves; 2. The Bridegroom of Barna; 3. The Involuntary Experimentalist; 4. Lebrun's Lawsuit; 5. The Snowing-up of Strath Lucas; and 6. A Few Words on Social Philosophy. The value of these papers has been already recognized. The twelfth volume is equal to any by which it has been preceded.

BOOKS RECEIVED.—*The Owllet Papers*. No. I. London: Charles Duff & Co., 11, Crane-court, Fleet-street.—*The Family Treasury of Sunday Reading*. Edited by the Rev. Andrew Cameron. London: James Nelson & Sons, Paternoster-row; Edinburgh and New York.—*The Baptist Magazine*. London: Pewtress & Co., 4, Ave Maria-lane.—*The Holy Bible*, translated from the Latin Vulgate. Published with the approbation of the Roman Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland. Parts VIII. and IX. London: James Duffy, 22, Paternoster-row; and 7, Wellington-quay, Dublin.—*Historical Tales of Celebrated Women*. London: Burns & Lambert, 17, Portman-street.—*The Jew of Verona*: an Historical Tale of the Italian Revolutions of 1846-9. Translated from the second revised edition. London: C. Dolman, 61, New Bond-street, and 21, Paternoster-row. Dublin: J. Mullany, 1, Parliament-street.—*The Indian Chief*. By Gustave Aimard, author of "The Prairie Flower." London: Ward & Lock, 158, Fleet-street.

#### LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

AMONG Mr. Murray's forthcoming works may be mentioned, "Explorations and Adventures in parts of Equatorial Africa never before visited," with accounts of the manners and customs of the people, and of the chase of the gorilla, the nest-building ape, chimpanzee, crocodile, elephant, and hippopotamus, by M. Du Chaillu, with map and numerous illustrations; and "Workman's Savings," reprinted from the *Quarterly Review*, by Samuel Smiles, author of "Self Help."

On the 15th of March will be ready, the Fifth Volume of Lord Macaulay's "History of England," edited by Lady Trevelyan. The present volume, which comprises the events of the years 1698, 1699, 1700, and 1701—including the death of James II. and the memorable general election of 1701—contains that portion of the "History of England" which Lord Macaulay left fairly transcribed and revised for the press. It is given to the world precisely as it was left; no connecting link has been added; no reference verified; no authority sought for and examined. It would have been possible, with the help which might have been obtained, to have supplied much that is wanting; it has been preferred, and it is believed that the public will prefer, that the historian's last thoughts should be preserved sacred from any touch but his own. Besides the revised manuscript, a few pages containing the first rough sketch of the last two months of William's reign, are all that is left. From this Lady Trevelyan has, with some difficulty, deciphered the account of the death of William. No attempt has been made to join it on to the preceding part, or to supply the corrections which would have been given by the improving hand of the author. But imperfect as it must be, it is believed that it will be received with pleasure and interest as a fit conclusion to the author's "History of England," from the accession of James II. to the death of William III. The separate indexes with which each of the first four volumes is furnished, have been incorporated with the index to the fifth volume, so as to form a general index to the entire work.

Messrs. Chapman & Hall will publish in a few days "The English at Home," being essays from the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, by Alphonse Esquiros, translated and edited by Lascelles Wrexall; a new sporting novel called "Market Harborough; or, how Mr. Sawyer went to the Shires." The same firm are about issuing pocket editions of Mr. Walter White's "A Londoner's Walk to the Land's End," and "A Trip to the Scilly Isles," and "A Month in Yorkshire."

Messrs. Groombridge & Son have the following new works nearly ready,— "Pictures in a Mirror," by W. Moy Thomas; "Ways of Life," by John Hollingshead; "Footsteps to Fame, a Book to Open other Books," by Hans Friswell, author of "Out and About;" the second volume of "Magnet Stories for Summer Days and Winter Nights;" the second volume of "Recreative Science, a Record and Remembrance of Intellectual Observation;" and "Beautiful Leaved Plants," being a description, with coloured plates, of the most beautiful leaved plants in cultivation by E. J. Lowe and W. Howard.

The sixth edition of "Essays and Reviews" will be issued this day (Saturday).



Messrs. Hurst & Blackett will publish early in March:—"The English Sportsman in the Western Prairies," by the Hon. Grantley Berkeley; "Ten Years' Wanderings among the Ethiopians;" with Sketches of the Manners and Customs of the civilized and uncivilized tribes from Senegal to Gaboon. By T. J. Hutchinson, Consul for Fernando Po; and "No Church," by the author of "High Church."

"Silas Marner, the Weaver of Raveloe" is the title of the new work, by the author of "Adam Bede," which we announced last week.

Messrs. Low & Son have in the press:—"The Twelve Great Battles of England," dedicated to the Volunteers of England; "Christian Nurture," by Dr. Horace Bushnell; and "Banks and Banking in Australia," giving a sketch of each bank, full accounts of capital, reserve fund, and rate of dividend, and the latest banking returns from the Australian colonies.

Messrs. Houlston & Wright are preparing "Uphill Work," by Mrs. Balfour, author of "The Women of Scripture;" "Walks Abroad and Evenings at Home," an illustrated book for the young; and "The Botanical Reason Why," by the editor of "Enquire Within."

Messrs. Edmonstone & Douglas announce, as just ready, "Sketches of Early Scottish History and Social Progress," by Cosmo Innes. This volume of Professor Innes contains chapters on the parish, the cathedral and bishoprick, the monasteries, and the universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen, illustrated by papers from the families of Morton, Breadalbane, Cawdor, and Kilravock, with a large appendix of documents.

Messrs. Longman announce a work by the Bishop of Victoria (Hong Kong), entitled, "Ten Weeks in Japan," in one volume, with maps and woodcuts. A new work by Dr. George Hartwig, on the "Life of the Tropics." In this work the author treats especially, and in detail, of the natural history of animal and vegetable life within the tropical regions, with the same completeness, living knowledge, and picturesque power which characterise his work, "On the Sea and its Living Wonders." Messrs. Longman are also preparing for publication a new work, entitled, "The Treasury of Botany," edited by John Lindley, Emeritus Professor of Botany in University College, London, assisted by Professor Balfour, the Rev. J. M. Berkeley, John Ball, F.R.S., the Rev. C. A. Johns, J. T. Syme, Maxwell Masters, and Thomas Moore, forming a volume uniform with Maunders' well-known series of Treasuries, and illustrated with engravings on steel, and numerous engravings on wood.

The author of "Paul Ferrol" will commence a new tale in No. I. of the *St. James's Magazine*. Judge Haliburton, Dr. Doran, Miss Muloch, Robert Bell, Williams Buchanan, and Robert Hunt, F.R.S., will, we believe, be contributors to the new periodical.

Messrs. Leonard & Co., of Boston, U.S., will sell by auction, early in May, the valuable library of Zelotes Hosmer, Esq. This collection is particularly rich in early English literature, fine copies of rare books, first editions, Shaksperiana, chiefly collected for the present owner, by the late Messrs. Pickering & Rodd, and Mr. Thomas Boone, of London. Catalogues may be had of Messrs. Trubner & Co., Paternoster-row.

The Count de Persigny has authorized the publication of two new daily papers in Paris. One is to be called *Le Temps*, and is to be edited by M. Neptzer, formerly editor of the *Presse*; and the second, to be called *La France Libérale*, is to be edited by M. Bonnet.

BOOKSELLERS' PROVIDENT RETREAT, ABBOT'S LANGLEY, HERTS.—We hear that the members of this Institution will esteem it a great kindness if any publisher or gentleman will send them the *Times*, or any other daily paper, the day after publication; while it will be a trifling matter to the sender, it will be a great one to the receiver.

There appears to be a growing desire amongst many persons connected with the bookselling trade to enroll members in some distinct company of rifle corps, and steps are being taken to call a public meeting for the purpose of considering the practicability of the scheme.

ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY.—In our notice of the exhibition of this academy reference was made in due terms of praise to the fine picture "Scene in Lochleven Castle." The name of the artist, Mr. William Fyfe, should have been mentioned. We now readily supply the omission, and assure the clever artist it was unintentional.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS AND NEW EDITIONS.

FROM MARCH 1ST TO MARCH 7TH.

- A General Introduction to the Apostolic Epistles. Second edition. 8vo. 8s. 6d. Bell & Daldy.
- A Mother's Lessons to her Little Ones about Jesus. 2s. Book Society.
- Aird (F.). The Poetical Works of David Macbeth Moir. Two Vols. Fcap. 8vo. cloth. 12s. W. Blackwood.
- Anderson (Rev. J.). Bible Incidents and their Lessons. 12mo. cloth. 2s. 6d. Nelson.
- Alexander (J. A.). A Gospel according to St. Matthew. 8vo. cloth. 7s. 6d. Trubner.
- Bayley (Mrs.). Ragged Homes. 1s. 6d. Nisbet.
- Bentley Ballads. New edition. 1 vol. 8vo. cloth. 5s. Bentley.
- Bird (C. S.). Memoirs of George Tyrrell. 12mo. 2s. 6d. Nisbet.
- Birrell (C. M.). Life of Rev. Richard Knill. Post 8vo. 2s. 6d. Nisbet.
- Brown (D.). The Restoration of the Jews. Crown 8vo. cloth. 5s. Hamilton.
- Brock (Mrs. Carey). The Rectory and the Manor. Third thousand. Small 8vo. cloth. 5s. Seeley & Jackson.
- Bushnell (Horace). Christian Nurture. 8vo. cloth. 7s. 6d. Trubner.
- The Character of Jesus. Fcap. 16mo. cloth. 6d. Low & Son.
- Christian Nurture. Post 8vo. cloth. 1s. 6d. Low & Son.
- The Character of Jesus. 18mo. cloth. 6d. Nelson.
- Christian Nurture. 1s. 6d. Nelson.
- Calder (Rev. F.). A Familiar Explanation of Arithmetic. New edition. Part I. Bds. 1s. 6d. With answers, 2s. Longman.
- Part II. 3s. 6d. With answers, 4s. 6d. Longman.
- Complete. 4s. 6d. Complete, with answers, 5s. 6d. Longman.
- Answers, sewed, 1s. Questions, sewed, 1s. Longman.
- Cresy (Edward). An Encyclopedia of Civil Engineering. New impression. 8vo. cloth. £2. 2s. Longman.
- Clay (Rev. E.). Doctrine, Parable, and Prophecy. Crown 8vo. cloth. 5s. Hamilton.
- Clark (Rev. W. R.). Four Advent Sermons. 12mo. cloth. 1s. 6d. Longman.
- Charlesworth (Miss). Light of Life. Fourth thousand. Small 8vo. cloth. 2s. 6d. Seeley & Jackson.
- Clarke (Mary Cowden). Shakspeare's Works. Royal 8vo. cloth. £1. 5s. Trubner.
- Conant (J. J.). St. Matthew's Gospel. Revised by 4to. boards. 8s. Trubner.
- Coles (Abraham). Dies Irae, in thirteen original versions. Small 4to. gilt. 10s. 6d. Trubner.
- Carlyle (Rev. Dr. Alexander). Autobiography of. Third edition. 8vo. cloth. 14s. W. Blackwood.
- Collins (Wilkie). The Dead Secret. Crown 8vo. cloth. 5s. Low & Son.
- Davis (Rev. E.). Heavenly Homes. Third edition. Fcap. 3s. 6d. Heylen.
- Denison (Archdeacon) on Church Rates. 8vo. 10s. 6d. Saunders & Otley.
- Drummond (J.). Homoeopathy among the Allopaths. Fcap. sewed. 1s. Turner.
- Dewar (D.). The Evidence of Divine Revelation. Second edition. Crown 8vo. cloth. 5s. Houlston & Wright.
- Drayson (Capt.). Practical Military Surveying and Sketching. Post 8vo. cloth. 4s. 6d. Chapman & Hall.
- Eadie's (John) Commentary on the Ephesians. Second edition. 8vo. cloth. 14s. Griffin & Co.
- Biblical Cyclopaedia. Eighth edition. 8vo. cloth. 7s. 6d. Griffin & Co.
- Edmonstone's (Sir A.) Short Readings of the Collects. 12mo. 6s. Masters.
- Forester (Thomas). Rambles in the Island of Corsica and Sardinia. Second edition. Imperial 8vo. cloth. 18s. Longman.
- Ford's (J.) Twelve Sermons at Heavitree. Second edition. 12mo. 3s. Masters.

- Gatley's (Mrs.) Aunt Judy's Tales. Third edition. 12mo. 3s. 6d. Bell & Daldy.
- Gross (Dr.) Lives of Eminent American Physicians and Surgeons of the 19th Century. 8vo. cloth. £1. 1s. Trubner.
- Hood (Thomas). Whims and Oddities. New Edition. 16mo. cloth. 5s. Moxon.
- Hunter (Rev. John). Shakspeare's Julius Caesar. 12mo. cloth. 2s. 6d. Longman.
- Hints on Houses and House Furnishing. 18mo. cloth. 1s. 6d. Groombridge.
- Hermann's (A.). Fifty German Lessons. Third edition. Post 8vo. 5s. 6d. Nutt.
- Handbook of Letter Writing. Fcap. cloth. 1s. Cassell.
- Jameson's (Mrs.). Characteristics of Women in Illustration of Shakspeare's Heroines. Illustrated. Two Vols. 8vo. cloth. 12s. Bohn.
- Memoirs of Female Sovereigns. Two Vols. Post 8vo. cloth. 12s. Bohn.
- Keith (A.). The History and Destiny of the World and the Church. Part I. 8vo. cloth. 10s. Nelson.
- Karcher's (Theodore). Biographies Militaires. Post 8vo. 3s. 6d. Nutt.
- Landreth (P.). Studies and Sketches in Modern Literature. Crown 8vo. cloth. 7s. 6d. Hamilton.
- Lupton's Anatomy of the Horse. Part I. Proofs £2. 5s. Baillière.
- Murby (T.). New Tunes to Choice Words. 12mo. 1s. 6d. Groombridge.
- Macgregor (Rev. J.). Book for Youth—Christian Doctrine. 18mo. limp. 1s. Hamilton.
- Meredith (Owen). Serbski Pesme; or National Songs of Servia. Fcap. 8vo. cloth. 4s. Chapman & Hall.
- Many Crowns. Third Thousand. 32mo. cloth. 1s. 6d. Seeley & Jackson.

- Macdonald (Rev. Donald). Introduction to the Pentateuch. Two Vols. 8vo. cloth. £1. 1s. Hamilton.
- Mackenzie (Rev. W. B.). The Wanderer. Third Thousand. Small 8vo. cloth. 1s. 6d. Seeley & Jackson.
- Pycroft (Rev. James). A Course of English Reading. Fourth edition. Fcap. 8vo. cloth. 5s. Longman.
- Palmer (R.). What is Truth? 12mo. cloth. 2s. 6d. Nelson.
- Phillimore's International Law. Vol. IV. 8vo. £1. 10s. Benning.
- 4 Vols. 8vo. £5. Benning.
- Plain £1. 11s. 6d. Baillière.
- Scott (W. B.). Half-hour Lectures on the Fine and Ornamental Arts. Post 8vo. cloth. 8s. 6d. Longman.
- Struggles for Life: an Autobiography. 2nd Thousand. Post 8vo. cloth. 6s. 6d. Houlston & Wright.
- The Teacher Taught. New edition. 18mo. Genesis. 2s. Nisbet.
- The Bible Reader's Journal, 1859-1860. 4to. cloth. 9s. Longman.
- The Protoplast. Fourth edition. Post 8vo. cloth. 9s. 6d. Wertheim & Co.
- Taylor (Edward B.). Anahuac, or Mexico and the Mexicans. 8vo. cloth. 12s. Longman.
- Vincent (J.). Country Cottages for Agricultural Labourers. Folio cloth. 12s. Hardwicke.
- Walford (E.). The Shilling Knightage, 1861. 32mo. cloth. 1s. Hardwicke.
- Baronetage, 1861. 32mo. cloth. 1s. Hardwicke.
- Wilson (Erasmus). The Anatomist's Vademecum. Fcap. 8vo. cloth. Eighth edition. 12s. 6d. Churchill.
- Young (J.). Evil and Good. Second edition. Crown 8vo. cloth. 5s. W. Allen.

## LEARNED SOCIETIES.

### MEETINGS FOR NEXT WEEK.

- MONDAY.
- 8½ P.M. Geographical—Burlington House. "Account of Excursions in Yesso, Japan." By Consul Hodgson. "Travels in Siam." By Sir R. H. Schomburgk.
- 8½ " Medical—32a, George-street, Hanover-square. "Suggestions for an Improved Practice in Strangulated Hernia." By Thomas Bryant, Esq.
- TUESDAY.
- 8½ " Medical and Surgical, 53, Berners-street, Oxford-street.
- 8 " Civil Engineers—25, Great George-street, Westminster. "On the North Sea, or German Ocean: with Remarks on its Estuaries, Rivers, and Harbours." By J. Murray, M. Inst. C.E.
- 9 " Zoological, Hanover-square.—"On a New British Species of Zoanthus." By E. W. H. Holdsworth, Esq. "On *Asteronyx Lowenii*, a new British Starfish." By T. H. Stewart, Esq.
- 7½ " Syro-Egyptian, 22, Hart-street, Bloomsbury.
- 3 " Royal Institution—Albemarle-street. Professor Owen. "On Fishes."
- WEDNESDAY.
- 8 " Society of Arts—John-street, Adelphi. "On the Best Method of Representing the Mineral Kingdom and Mineral Manufactures in the International Exhibition of 1862." By D. T. Ansted, F.R.S.
- 8 " Graphic—Flaxman Hall, University College.
- 8 " Microscopical—King's College, Strand.
- 8½ " Royal Society of Literature—4, St. Martin's-place, Trafalgar-square. "On Assyrian Antiquities." By H. Fox Talbot, Esq., V.P.
- 8½ " Archaeological Association—32, Sackville-street.
- THURSDAY.
- 8½ " Royal—Burlington House. Papers to be read:—"On an Application of the Theory of Scalar and Chant Radical Loci." By A. J. Ellis. "On the Relations of the Vomer, Ethmoid, and Intermaxillary Bones." By Dr. J. Cleland.
- 8½ " Antiquaries—Somerset House.
- 8 " Philological—Somerset House.
- 3 " Royal Institution—Albemarle-street. Professor Tyndall—"On Electricity."
- FRIDAY.
- 8 " Royal Institution—Albemarle-street. "On Electrical Quantity and Intensity," by Mr. Latimer Clark.
- SATURDAY.
- 3 " Royal Institution—Albemarle-street. Dr. E. Frankland "On Inorganic Chemistry."

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

**ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, Covent Garden.** Under the Management of Miss LOUISA PYNE and Mr. W. HARRISON, Sole Lessees.—Six Additional Nights after the regular Operatic Season, concluded SATURDAY, the 9th. The Management, in obedience to the demand at the Box-office, beg to announce Six Extra Performances of Auber's popular Opera LE DOMINO NOIR. MONDAY Evening, the 11th, and the five following evenings, at 8 o'clock, LE DOMINO NOIR: Angela, Miss Louisa Pyne; Horace, first time, Mr. W. Harrison; Messrs. H. Corri, St. Albyn, and Horncastle; Miss Leffler, Thirlwall, Morell, Huddart. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon. To conclude with Mendelssohn's operetta of the SON and STRANGER (for the first time here): Messrs. St. Albyn, Corri, Lyall, Horncastle; Miss Thirlwall, Leffler. Special notice, at the conclusion of the six extra nights. Mr. W. Harrison will take his BENEFIT on TUESDAY, March 19, on which occasion MARITANA will be produced for that night only; and on the following THURSDAY, 21st, Miss Louisa Pyne begs to announce her Benefit and last night.

**THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.**—Brilliant Success of the New Comedy, A DUKE IN DIFFICULTIES, in which Mrs. Stirling has been rapturously received. MONDAY, March 11, and during the week, a New Comedy, in Three Acts, with new scenery, dresses, and appointments, entitled, A DUKE IN DIFFICULTIES. Characters by Mr. Buckstone, Mr. Howe, Mr. Compton, Mr. E. Villiers, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Clark, Mr. Braid; Mrs. Stirling, Mrs. Wilkins, Miss T. Hayden, Mrs. Poynter, and Miss Fanny Stirling. To be preceded every evening, Saturday excepted, by the Ballet of THE SUN AND THE WIND, in which Charles Leclercq, Arthur Leclercq, Louisa Leclercq, Fanny Wright, and the Corps de Ballet will appear. Concluding, on Monday and Tuesday, with the Comedy of MY WIFE'S DAUGHTER, and on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, SIMPSON AND CO. On SATURDAY, March 16, to commence at Seven, A DUKE IN DIFFICULTIES. After which, by desire, the Christmas Pantomime of QUEEN LADYBIRD AND HER CHILDREN; or, HARLEQUIN AND A HOUSE ON FIRE, with all the magnificent scenery by Fenton. Box-office open daily from Ten till Five.

**NEW THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.**—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. B. WEBSTER.—Re-Engagement of Mr. and Mrs. DION BOUCAULT.—THE LAST TWELVE NIGHTS OF THE COLLEEN BAWN.—On MONDAY, and during the Week, AN UGLY CUSTOMER.—Mr. J. L. Toole, C. Selby, Miss K. Kelly, and C. Thorne. THE COLLEEN BAWN.—Miss Agnes Robertson, Miss Woolgar, Mrs. Billington, and Mrs. Chatlerley; Messrs. D. Fisher, Billington, Falconar, Stephenson, C. J. Smith, and Dion Boucault. And successful Burlesque BLUE BEARD FROM A NEW POINT OF VIEW.—Messrs. J. L. Toole, P. Bedford, C. J. Smith, Miss Woolgar, K. Kelly, and E. Thorne. Commences at Seven. Stage Manager, Mr. R. Phillips, Acting Manager, Mr. W. Smith.

**POLYTECHNIC.**—OLD ENGLISH SONGS AND BALLADS, an ENTERTAINMENT by Mr. RAMSDEN, every Evening. FARADAY'S DISCOVERIES IN ELECTRICITY, by Professor GARDNER. ASTRONOMY, with illuminated Diagrams. In addition to the usual Amusements. Open Morning and Evening. The Laboratory is open for Analysis and Students.



## LAST TWO WEEKS OF THE PRESENT ENTERTAINMENT.

**MR. AND MRS. GERMAN REED, WITH MR. JOHN PARRY,** will give their **POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT** Every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight, Thursday and Saturday Afternoons, at Three, at the **ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, REGENT-STREET.** Unreserved Seats, 1s., and 2s.; Stalls, 3s.; Stall Chairs, 5s. Secured in advance at the Gallery from 11 to 5, and at Messrs. Cramer, Beale, & Co.'s, 201, Regent-street.

**MR. W. S. WOODIN'S NEW ENTERTAINMENT, THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES,** Polygraphic Hall, King William-street, Charing-cross. **TO-NIGHT,** and every evening (except Saturday), at 8. Private boxes, £1. 1s.; stalls and box stalls, 3s.; area, 2s.; amphitheatre, 1s. A plan of the stalls may be seen, and seats secured without extra charge, at the box-office, from 10 till 4. Morning performance, Saturday, March 9th, at 3.

**HOLMAN HUNTS GREAT PICTURE.** The **EXHIBITION** of Holman Hunt's celebrated Picture of "THE FINDING OF THE SAVIOUR IN THE TEMPLE," began in Jerusalem in 1854 and completed in 1860, is **NOW OPEN** to the Public, at the **GERMAN GALLERY, 168, NEW BOND STREET.**—Admission One Shilling.

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**MR. SELOUS' TWO GREAT SACRED HISTORICAL PICTURES.**—1. JERUSALEM IN HER GRANDEUR, A.D. 33, with Christ's Triumphant Entry into the Holy City.—2. JERUSALEM IN HER FALL, as now viewed from the Mount of Olives, **NOW ON VIEW** at the **GALLERY, No. 5, WATERLOO-PLACE.**—Open from Ten till Five.—Admission One Shilling.

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**THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT, ACCOUNTS, and BALANCE SHEET** of the **MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY** for the year 1860 are this day published, and may be had by a written or personal application to the Head Office, or to any of the Society's Agents.

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The Tables of Rates here given are of necessity very limited, but every information will be readily afforded on application.

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